ARTIFICES

OF THE

Romiss PRIESTS,

In making Converts to POPERY:

OR, AN

ACCOUNT

OF THE

Various Methods, practifed by Popish Missionaries, to deceive the Protestants of this Kingdom, and deprive them of their Religion and Loyalty.

With Authentic Proofs from the Writings of the Papists themselves.

MATTH. XXIII. 15.

Wo unto you Scribes and Pharisees, Hypocrites; for ye compass Sea and Land to make one Proselyte; and when he is made, ye make him two-fold more the Child of Hell than yourselves.

LONDON:

Printed for M. Cooper, in Pater-Noster-Row; James Fletcher, at Oxford; and T. Merrill, at Cambridge, 1746. [Price 1s. 6d.]

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With Anthentic Reach from the Writings of the Medices.

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MISSIONARIES ARTS

DISCOVERED.

INTRODUCTION.

AVING observed the Difference between the Method followed by Protestant Divines, and that which the Gentlemen of the Church of Rome take, in their unwearied Endeavours for gaining Proselytes, I have several times taken notice, that, instead of handling particular Controversies, they, for the most part, wholly decline them, and take another Course; wherein what their Defign is will eafily be apprehended, if we consider, that their Experience tells them, that Prejudice is the main Prop of their Church, which renders their People deaf to whatever is objected to their Doctrines; and they know very well how far that goes to make them believe whatever is imposed on them. It is an usual Thing to hear the Common-people justify themselves, in Matters of Practice, by the Examples of those they have an Esteem for; and, if they can find any thing they are blamed for, countenanced or practifed by a Person they look upon as a pious or wife Man, it is their common

mon Argument, Such a Man, who is much better and wifer than I, is of this Opinion, or acts as I do, and why may not I? I am fure he would not do it if it, were not lawful: Which Observation those Masters of Crafts, who manage even the eternal Affairs of Souls by the Wiles of Policy and Cunning, make fuch use of, as to bend all their Endeavours to create in the People a good Opinion of them, and then they know their Work is as good as done. And not only my own Observation assures me, that this is their Defign, but I offer this Evidence of it. Among all the Romish Converts you shall scarce find one, who is able to give you any particular Reason for his Change, but only this, that he cannot think so holy a Church would deceive him; and he is convinced, that it is his Duty in all Things to fubmit to her, without examining her Doctrines; which is a clear Proof, that their main Endeavour is to infinuate themselves into the good Opinion of those they would pervert; and, having sufficiently possessed them with fuch favourable Thoughts, they eafily prevail upon them to give themselves up to be conducted by them; so that Prejudice and Affection make more Papists, than Evidence of Truth and Reason.

Thus, by infifting upon Generals to possess the Affections, rather than inform the Judgments of Men, they go uncontrolled; our Divines going the fairer Way to work, and aiming at the rectifying Men's Understandings, not the forming of a Party of Proselytes, as if Truth was to be found by the Voices of the giddy Multitude, and not by rational and convincing

Evidence; which made the ingenious Anfwerer to the Dean of London-derry profess, (a)
'That he always believed, that they rather de'figned to gain Proselytes by confounding their
'Heads, than by clear Reason and Information;'
their Design being, (b) 'to make a Shew of
'faying somewhat, ours to instruct our People.'
I have had occasion to be acquainted with several of their Converts, and do profess, I could
hardly ever meet with any who understood the
Matters in Dispute, but acknowledged, it was
the Force of these general Arguments that prevailed on them to change.

And this Way is not only followed by some among them, but the whole Clergy (c) of France have propounded general Methods to be prosecuted to this End, and the University

of (d) Lovaine have published theirs.

Finding therefore, that all their Success proceeded from particular Artifices, I thought it my Duty to endeavour to prevent their doing any farther Mischief, by laying them open to the World, that the unchristian Slights being discovered, and their Force enervated, the People may be upon their Guard, knowing what Dealing they are to expect from these bufy Men, and not be so easily possessed with Prejudices, which they labour to instill into them, into them, in order to enslave them in such a

(d) Mysterium Piectatis, Ultraj. 1686, 8vo.

⁽a) Answer to the Consideration, which obliged Peter Manby, &c. p. 3. Lond. 1687, 4to.

⁽b) Summ. of Prin. Cont. p. 3. Lond. 1687, 4to. (c) See Burn. Answer to the Meth. of the French Clerg. 1683, 8vo.

Number of Errors and Superstitions, as no one Sect besides was ever guilty of; which I shall endeavour to do in the following Chapters.

CHAP. I.

Of their Manner of Address.

THEN the Missionaries have a Defign on any particular Person, after Acquaintance once got, they are very cautious not to begin to infift closely upon any religious Subject, until, by their Industry and diligent Obfervation, they have discovered the Disposition and Inclination of their intended Profelyte: This is one of the fecret Rules found in the College of Jesuits at Paderborn, 'That, in attempting to gain young Men, to lift them-' felves in their (e) Order, they endeavour to please them with such Diversions as are best ' fuited to their Tempers, and most apt to allure ' them to be of that Society, where they meet ' with what is fo agreeable to their Inclinations.' It is indeed usual with them to cast out several loofe Words, either concerning the Holiness and Certainty of their Faith, or the Uncertainty and Vanity of the Protestants, which they know are as fo many latent Darts, which will pierce deeper when other Arguments come to drive them on: But, till they find how the Disposition

⁽e) Instruct. secret. pro super. Societat. Jesu, p. 17. It is one of the Pieces published in the Arcana Societat. Jesu, 1635, 8vo. See it in English. Printed at London for Tho. Dring, 1658, 8vo, in the second Part of the Mystery of Jesuissm.

of the Person lies, they cannot practise their several Arts, which vary according as the Tem-

pers differ of those they deal with.

Their Character of religious Men gives them always an Opportunity to discourse, with a serious Look and grave Accent, of the great Things of Salvation, which they feldom or never omit to lay hold on, feeing fuch Discourses are very apt to make Impressions upon the Minds of those who are devoutly inclined; and, if the Person they deal with be such an one, they are very proper and feafonable to be used to him; and, on the other hand, if he be not, they can put no stop to their Design, for, by their reiterated Pretences of Zeal for the Salvation of Souls, their frequent Instances of their Trouble to fee fo many led in Error, and ready to perish, and their free Offering the utmost of their Service for so good a Work, with their earnest and serious urging the great Danger a Protestant is in, they gain, even with the Loose and Vicious a good Opinion of them, that they are really in earnest, and believe and defign what they pretend: And, there being scarce fuch a thing in the World a real speculative Atheist, they know that all are defirous of Happiness hereafter, though not willing to leave their Sins for it; therefore even with the worst they get this Advantage, that, by their Lamentations and zealous Pretences, they are believed to have a Defign only to lead them to Heaven; which Point gained, they know how to accommodate their Doctrine even to those, by offering them such an easy Way to suture Happiness, that, distasting the four Methods of Repentance, and univerfal Holiness, they will willingly go where they have hopes of gaining Heaven, and

keeping their Sins too.

By this Means being fure to gain, by ferious Discourses, whoever they have to deal with, you will certainly meet with as heavenly and religious Expressions as can be invented; and, after they have enlarged upon the Worth of Souls, the Importance of the right Faith, and their own Intentions, being only to enlighten those who are in the Darkness of Heresy, which they will express with the utmost of their Rhetoric, and set off with the most devout Looks, and earnest Actions, they will vary their Expressions, to find out what is most taking; sometimes they will tell you, we require what God never commanded, by teaching those Duties under Pain of Damnation, which are in themselves not necessary, and the Omission of them only venial Transgressions, which do not in themselves deserve Damnation; and that we call those mortal Sins, affirming, that all (f) are abfolutely obliged to avoid them, which God never efteemed as fuch; and that we make the Cafe of Christians too hard, affirming, that there is no Difference between Counfels and Commands, whereby we bind every one to do those Things, which none, according to them, except by a particular Vow, are obliged to; that we affirm all our Duties to be so imperfect, that they are in themselves Sins, thereby discouraging Christians in their Performance of them, and affronting the Grace

⁽f) Thus, where we teach Meditation to be the Duty of every Christian, Father Cross, in his Sermon before the Queen, Ap. 21, 1686, saith, I do not approve the Opinion of those who hold it obligatory to all.

Grace of God, as if he could not enable us to keep all his Commands perfectly; but there will still be Imperfections in their Performances, which make work for daily Repentance; so over-burthening the Consciences of Christians, where God hath not done it.

This, they know, will be greedily catched at by the Libertine, who is glad to hear of an easier Way to Heaven, than the Protestant Church shews to her Members; and, if the Person they address to should happen to be of a devout and severe Principle, they know how to make use of the fame Charge, to work their Ends; by complaining, that, whereas God hath left some Things only recommended by way of Counsel, we, by preaching them as Commands, take away all the Merit of those Performances, which is greater where Men are left free, than when they are obliged under Penalties; and that we do thereby frighten Men from real Holiness; and, by such a general Discourse, which they can apply to all Tempers, they make their Way towards fixing a good Opinion of themselves, in the Minds of Men, who are much taken, if they be inclined to Vice, with the Hopes of more Liberty, which is offered them under the Shew of Holiness; and, if ferious, with the hopes of meriting, and attaining to a greater Degree of Glory, by their free uncommanded Obedience, than they could expect from an Obedience yielded only to fevere Commands; for the feeding of whose Humour they will inlarge upon that usual Topic, that we have no Repentance nor good Works in our Church, (a Scandal which they often cast upon us) and consequently have none of that Strictness which

which a pious Soul delights in; and this seeming Argument, for the greatest Strictness; they can turn to the Encouragement of an idle and vain Disposition, by extolling the Easiness of their Absolution and Pennance, when we take such Methods, as keep a Man all his Life to a serious Examination and Enquiry, whether his Repentance be sincere.

These Discourses, and such as these, being applicable to all forts of Men, are common with them even at first; but, when they have made a Discovery of your Dispositions, they come more particularly to their feveral Methods, which are fuited to each Temper; and having endeavoured, with all their Power, by Actions as well as Words, to render themselves esteemed, according to that Instruction to the (g) Superiors of the Jesuits, " That they should ingratiate themselves with the ' People, by shewing the End of the Society to be as tender of the Welfare of their Neighbour "as of their own; and upon this Account undergo the meanest Offices, visit the Hospitals, ' and affift the Poor; make charitable Collections, ' and dispose of them to the Poor in Public, that others, being excited by their Liberality, may "be the more kind to the Society."

They begin afresh, if they deal with a devout Soul, to enlarge upon their Care of Souls, and their

⁽g) Instructiones pro Super. Societ. Jesu, p. 4.—Ut se gratam & acceptam præbeat societas incolis loci, multum ad hoc conducet explicatio finis societatis, præscripti in regula secunda summarii, incumbere in salutem proximi æque ac suam. Quare humilia obsequia obeunda, in Xenodochiis, & limo jacentes invisendi.—Eleemosynæ conquirendæ, dandæque pauperibus aliis videntibus, ut ædificati sacto nostrorum sint in nos liberaliores.

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their Unwillingness to meddle with these Matters, being more enclined to the more practical Duties, as when the Jesuits have a mind to advance any of their Partizans to a high Place in any Prince's Court, they are directed to (b) 'insist upon the great Concern that Religion and Justice hath in those who are advanced to Dignities; and therefore, that such ought to be elected as are eminent for their Virtues, which they are to enumerate, and then be sure to propose a Friend of the Society's, as endued with the Virtues they before commended; but at the same time express their Unwillingness to meddle.'

Just so they govern themselves in making Converts, among the Piously-inclined; and, as (i) Sir Edwin Sands observes, of their Gestures, and such Pretences, 'When a Frier is an Abandoner of the World, a Man wholly rapt with divine Affections and Extasses; his Apparel denouncing Contempt of all earthly Vanity, his Countenance preaching Severity, Pennance, and Discipline; breathing nothing but Sighs for the Hatred of Sin; his Eyes listed upward as fixed on his Joys; his Head bowed on the one Side with Tenderness of Love and Humility, extending his ready Hand to lay hold on Men's Souls, to snatch them out of the siery Jaws of that gardinate them out of the siery Jaws of that gardinate them out of the siery Jaws of that gardinate them out of the siery Jaws of that gardinate them out of the siery Jaws of that gardinate them out of the siery Jaws of that gardinate them out of the siery Jaws of that gardinate them.

(i) Europæ Speculum, p. 71, 72, Lond. 1687, 8vo.

⁽b) Ibid. p. 30.—Sæpe inculcent principibus, distributionem honorum & dignitatum in Repub. spectare ad justitiam; graviterque deum offendi si contra eam a principibus peccetur; se tamén nolle dicant ingerere in ullam administrationem Reip & hæc se in viros dicere ratione sui essicii; Quod ubi apprehenderint principes, expelicetur ipsis, quibus virtutibus præditi esse debe int viri assumendi ad dignitates Reip. commendationis capita sumantur, ex amicis societatis nostræ, &c.

ping black Dragon, and to place them in the Path that conducts to Happiness; when such a ' Man, I say, shall address himself to a Woman, or to any other vulgar Person of what fort soever, persuading, beseeching with all plausible ' Motions of Reason, yea with Sighs of Fear, and Tears of Love, instanting and importuning no other Thing at their Hands than only this, to be content to fuffer God to fave their Souls, and to crown them with everlafting Happiness; ' which they shall certainly attain by ranging ' themselves with the heavenly Army of God, ' that is, by adjoining themselves to the Church of Christ and his Vicar; and this again and a-' gain iterated and purfued with Shew of incredible Care of their Good, without feeking other ' Meed and Commodity to himself, save only of being the Instrument of a Soul's Salvation. ' it to be marvelled, though he prevail and possess ' them in such forcible fort, that no Access remain for any contrary Persuasion; and certainly, by ' their dealing thus with Men at fingle Hand in ' private, they prevail, as Experience doth daily ' shew, exceedingly.' But as they take this Method to deal with some,

But as they take this Method to deal with some, so they address themselves to others in a quite contrary Manner, they having, as I shall prove more particularly hereaster, not only several Ways of Insinuation, but several, yea contrary Doctrines framed on purpose to be as Baits for all Sorts of Men; which, as I have often observed, so I find it noted by that ingenious Gentleman, who had spent a great Part of his Time in Italy, the Mint of their Policies, which they have, to my Knowledge, made great use of in these Kingdoms,

and some neighbouring Nations: (k) 'The particular Ways, faith he, they have to ravish all Affections, and to fit each Humour, are well nigh infinite; there being not any Thing either facred or profane, no Virtue or Vice almost, nothing of how contrary Condition foever, which they make not in some fort to serve that Turn; that each Fancy might be fatisfied, and each Appetite find what to feed on: Whatfoever either Wealth can fway with the Lovers, or vo-! luntary Poverty with the Despisers of the World; what Honour with the Ambitious; what Obedience with the humble; what great Employment with ftirring and metalled Spirits; what perpetual Quiet with heavy and restive Bodies; what Content the pleasant Nature can take in Pastimes and Jollity; what contrariwise the auftere Mind in Discipline and Rigour; what Love either Chastity can raise in the Pure, or Voluptuousness in the Dissolute; what Allurements are in Knowledge to draw the Contemplative, or in Actions of State to posses the practic Dispositions; what with the hopeful Prerogative of Reward can work; what Errors, Doubts and Dangers with the Fearful; what Change of Vows with the Rash, of Efate with the Inconstant; what Pardons with the Faulty, or Supplies with the Defective; what Miracles with the Credulous; what Vifions with the Fantastical; what Gorgeousness of Shews with the Vulgar and Simple; what ' Multitude of Ceremonies with the Superstitious ' and Ignorant; what Prayer with the Devout; what

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what with the Charitable, Works of Piety what Rules of higher Perfection with elevated ' Affections; what dispencing with Breach of all Rules with Men of lawless Conditions. And fo he goes on to shew how the very Constitution of their Church is made up of fuch Contrariety; which I shall insist farther on in another Place, my Business here being to shew how they are prepared to fit each Temper and Inclination, with fuitable Discourses and Allurements. They know the greatest Part of Men in the World are either very much taken with gaudy and pompous Sights, which bewitch their Senfes, and so wholly possess them, as to take away all Room for rational Reflections; or so charmed with the Delights of their beloved Corruptions, that they are unwilling to part with them.

To catch the first Sort, we find them boasting of the Splendour and outward Glory of the Church of Rome, to such a Degree, that they have made this (1) Pomp a Mark of the true Church: This is observed by an ingenious Author of their own (m) Communion, 'That they insist much upon the fine Churches they have at Rome, whose admi-

rable Structure doth greatly edify Believers, and,

as Cardinal Pallavicini fays, (lib. 8. c. 17.) is of

' itself capable to convert Infidel Princes. This 'Way of catching People by gaudy Shews, and

fplendid Sights is looked on with fuch a fa-

vourable Eye among them, that the three Bi-

(1) Bellar. lib. de Not. Eccl. c. 18.

⁽m) Sure and honest Means for the Conversion of Heretics, p. 110, Lond. 1687, 4to.

hops (m) from Bononia, in a Letter of Advice to Pope Julius III. observe, That the Vulgar are given to admire and to be amused with these ' Things, in the Contemplation of which their Minds are as it were so intangled, that they have no Relish for any other Food, nor Inclination to any other Doctrine. They affirm, that they were defigned for that Purpose; and therefore give it as their Judgment, That they should be augmented and multiplied; for, fay they, if the introducing and appointing those few, which we have mentioned, were of fuch Use to the Settlement of your Kingdom, of what Advantage would it be were there fome new ones added, And this Advice was so exactly observed, that the excellent Richerius, a Doctor of the Sorbon, tells us, 'That (0) this was the Scope f and Defign of the Reformation established by the Council of Trent, nothing being effected for the Truth, but external Pomp provided for; so that innumerable splendid, gaudy Ceremonies were daily invented; whence proceeded a magnificent and theatrical Way of adorning their Churches, the facerdotal Ornaments, glittering with Gold and Silver, while the Priests who wore them were mere Stocks; by which Artifices the People's Minds were amused and insensibly drawn from the Consideration of the Necessity of Reformation: Which made ' the

(o) Richer. Histor, Concil. Gen. lib. 4. par. 2. p. 246, 247,

Colon. 1683, 8vo.

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⁽n) See their Letter at large in Vergerius; and lately in Erglish, intitled, The State of the Church of Rome before the Reformation, 1687, 4to.

the learned Andreas Masius (p) complain, That

'Piety was extinguished, and Discipline neglect-

ed, while all Applications were made, and In-

ventions used to increase their Pomp.

The glittering Gold in their Temples, and curious Images of Saints and Angels, the numerous and stately Altars, the mighty Silver Statues, the rich and glorious Vestments you see up and down their Churches, strike the Senses into a kind of Extacy; which they are fo fenfible of, that with all their Rhetoric they enlarge upon this Subject, striving to persuade their intended Proselytes to see with what Magnificence they perform their Worship; thus when his Majesty of blessed Memory (q) King Charles I. being then Prince, was in the Spanish Court, there were great Sums expended in folenm glittering Processions, and their Churches set out with their richest Ornaments, to charm his Senses; but he was too well-grounded in his Religion to be caught with that Bait: And I remember this is given by (r) Capt, Robert Everard, as a Motive to his Conversion, as he calls it, to the Roman Church. The great Use they make of it inclines me to believe, this Device is accompanied with more than ordinary Success; it is also so universal, that in the Indies they have these Pageants, to delight the Senses and Fancies of the Indians. (s) Against Christmas-day they set up a thatched House like a Stall in some Corner of their Churches,

⁽p) Apud Richer. ubi sup.

⁽q) Rushw. Collect. par. 1. p. 83. fol. Lond. 1659. (r) In his Epistle to the Nonconformists, 1664, 8vo.

⁽s) Gage's New Survey of the West-Indies, p. 152, Edit. Lond. 1655, fol.

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Churches, with a blazing Star over it, pointing to the three Wise Men from the East; within this Stall they lay a Crib, and the Image of a Child, the Virgin Mary standing on one side, and Joseph on the other; there is likewise an As and an Ox, the three Wise Men kneel and offer their Gists; the Shepherds stand aloost off with theirs, and the Angels hang about the Stall, with several Instruments of Music; and there is scarce an Instruments of Music; and there is scarce an Indian that cometh not to see this Bethlehem; as we, are assured by one who was a Frier, and dwelt in those Parts above twelve Years, who gives several other Instances of the same Nature (t).

I have frequently been answered by their Converts, when desiring to know what they found amiss in our Church? That we did nothing to keep up the Remembrance of our Saviour, which they were at the greatest Charges to effect; and I have received a Relation, from a Gentleman very conversant among them, which

for feveral Reasons I think worth inserting.

This Gentleman in his Travels, being at Bruffels in the Low Countries, was often invited by Preists there to their Churches and Convents, after some time spent in debating Points in Difference between the two Churches, they, finding no Probability of his Conversion, one Day told him, 'There would be a great Ceremony 'at such a Church the Friday following, being Good-

⁽t) Ogilby, in his History of Japan, Edit. Lond. 1670, p. 242, 246, 247, &c. gives an Account of the same Method by the Missionaries in that Country.

Good-Friday, at which they defired he would be present, one of them adding, that he thought the Sight of it alone was enough to convert any Heretic; and instanced in one or two Persons on whom it had a very powerful ' Effect.' According to their Defire the Gentleman went, and by the Motion he felt in himself (the Representation being so lively that it melted him into Tears) doth profess, 'He believes the weaker fort of Men, who are not very well grounded in their Religion, may be ' strangely altered by such a Sight; though, upon Deliberation, he found it so gross a Piece of ' Idolatry, that it created in him a greater Detestation of the Religion of the Church of Rome than he had before.' It being never, that I know of, related by any Author, I believe it will be very acceptable to the Reader to have an Account of it.

' At the upper End of the Church there is a large Stage erected, in the midst of which is fet up a Cross, on which is nailed an Image of our Saviour (given, as they fay, by the Infanta Isabella) made of Pastboard, but exactly to the Life, having Joints, and the Veins appearing as full of Blood; it is crowned with Thorns, and hangs in the Posture of a crucified Person; on one side stands the Image of the Bleffed Virgin all in Mourning, and on the other a Coffin to lay the Image in. After the Sermon, the Governour and most of the Nobility being present, there come forth fix ' Friers bare-foot in their Stoles, who fall prostrate before the Image, frequently beating their Breasts, lifting up their Heads, and looking on it with all ould

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ith all all the Signs of Grief and Adoration; then, rising by degrees, two of them remain kneeling, each holding an End of a large Swathe, which is put under the Arms of the Image; two standing under the Image to receive it, and the other two ascending two Ladders, which are placed at the Back of the Cross; when one, with a great deal of Reverence, taking off the Crown of Thorns, wipes it, and, descending, brings it to the Front of the Stage, where shewing it to the People, they all kneel with much Devotion; then, approaching the Image of the Virgin, he falls on his Knees, and lays it at her Feet: Then, returning up the ' Ladder, they, with a great Noise and Knocking, take out one of the Nails, upon which the Arm of the Image falls, exactly like the Arm of a dead Man; this Nail he carries to the People, who as before prostrate themselves, and he with the same Gesture presents it to the Virgin; after which the other Nails are shewn and presented: The Body being taken down; and brought by them with a flow Pace, and mournful Look to the People, they adore again, when the Friers upon their Knees present it to the Virgin, and with much Ceremony lay it in a Glass-coffin, in which it is carried round the Town, the feveral Orders, (the Carthusians and Jesuits exepted, who attend at 'no Procession) with lighted Candles preceding; ' the Governour of the Netherlands, and the No-' bility following bare-headed.' What they did ' afterwards the Gentleman faw not. Thus have the Romanists brought the most

gross Pageantry into their Church to be Mo-

tives to their Religion, not confidering, that the Heathens of Japan and China, and the Inhabitants of America, whose Images and the Infide of their Temples are all of massy Gold, have in this respect a fairer Title to be the true Church, than they; from whence the Heathens of old cannot be excluded, if Pomp, as Bellarmine and others teach, be a Mark of the true Church, feeing their Ceremonies and Rites of this Nature are copied from them, as is confessed by Cardinal (u) Boronius, 'That the Offices of Pagan Superstition were purposely ' introduced and confecrated to the Service of God, (as he calls it) and true Religion.' And vet, by this very Method, they gain so much, that (x) a diligent Observer of them, before cited, affirms, 'That, were it not that the Mufic. Perfumes, and rich Sights, did hold the outward Senses with their natural Delight, furely their Worship could not but either be abandoned for the Fruitlessness, or only upon ' Fear and Constraint frequented.'

And in this Particular they have several Baits, according to the several Dispositions of Men, for the more refined Sort of those, who are caught with these glorious and splendid Sights, they have such Representations as I have mentioned; but for the Less discerning they are, like their Similitudes, so gross, that, in a Person of a very moderate Understanding, they are sitter to excite a Loathing and Contempt, than Admiration: For what other Effect can proceed

⁽u) Ad Ann. 200, sect. 5. Consulto introductum videtur ut quæ erant gentilitiæ superstitionis officia eadem veri Dei cultui sanctissicata in veræ religionis cultum imponderentur.

(x) Europæ Speculum, p. 8. Lond. 1687, 8vo.

from fuch a Picture, as that over the Altar at Worms, which one would think was invented by the Enemies of Transubstantiation, to make it appear ridiculous: 'There is a Windmill, and the Virgin throws Christ into the ' Hopper, and he comes out at the Eve of the 'Mill all in Wafers, which some Priests take up and give to the People: But, notwithflanding the Coarseness of this Emblem, it is so ' agreeable to the Genius of the German Boors, ' that it is to this Day over one of their Altars

' there.' (y)

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This Practice of theirs, in which they place so much Confidence, and to which they are beholden for much of their Success, is so far from being warrantable, that it is directly contrary to the Defign of the Gospel, whose Simplicity is such, as that it needs none of these Guegaus to support it; and therefore it was spread by the first Planters of it without them. Saint Paul was so far from making use of such Vanities, that he durst not use the (z) enticing Words of Man's Wisdom in his Sermons and Exhortations; which furely is much more tolerable, than to endeavour to gain Men to the true Religion, by bewitching them with those fenfual Objects, which the Defign of Christianity is to wean them from. And certainly, when we are cautioned not to be like (a) Children, toffed to and fro with every Wind of Doctrine, through the Slight of Men, there is a particular Caution included therein, against suffering fuch

⁽yl) Burnet's Letters of his Travels, p. 287, 288. Edit. Roterd. 1687, 8vo.

⁽²⁾ I Cor. ii. 4, 5. (a) Ephef. iv. 14.

fuch vain Shews, and gaudy Pomps to make Impression on us, which are the peculiar Delights of Children, and must needs argue us very much (b) Children in Understanding and Reli-

gion to be enticed by them.

The Truth of this is so clear, that those among the Romanists, who endeavour to fix in their Minds a right Idea of Christianity, remembering that the Founder of it said, his Kingdom was not of this World, conceive fuch an Indignation against these carnal and vain Methods, that one of them does not stick to fay (c), 'That, ' if any Man be converted by these, he is a ' Fool; and affures us, that he knows, that ' upon People of Understanding, who apply ' themselves to solid Things, and grow in Spirit ' and Truth, this hath a contrary Effect; for ' these Things do debauch the Mind, and set ' it on wandering. The Enquiry, continues he, is about feeking God, and finding him in those ' Places; and it is not the Sight of the fine ' Gilding, or the excellent Painting of an Edi-' fice, nor the Hearing of a sweet Harmony, but ' rather the lifting-up of our Minds above sen-' fible Objects, and separating them, as much as ' possibly we can, from Sense and Imagination: ' It is the fixing the Eyes of our Understanding ' with a religious Attention upon that invisible Spirit, upon that Sun of Justice; and, when we do it with that Love and Reverence that is due ' to it, we shall never fail of seeing and hearing ' the most delightful Things.'

And

⁽b) 1 Cor. xiv. 20.

⁽c) Sure and bonest Means for converting a Heretic, p. 110.

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And then he goes on to lay down Reasons, why we ought not to be wrought upon by fuch external Things: 'The Fathers, faith he, (d) were of Opinion, that Antichrist should one Day seize upon the most magnificent Temples of the Christians; this was the Opi-' nion of St. Hilary, and of St. Jerome; this last " mentions the very Rock of Tarpeius: Therefore the Popes ought not to glory over-much ' in their Buildings, fince Antichrist shall one Day place himself in them.----I like well enough to fee fuch fine Things as these, but ' I confess, that I have more Devotion in a little Church, without Magnificence or rich Ornaments, than I have in fuch Places. I find ' that my Devotion does infenfibly divide, and that Sense doth sometimes carry away a Part of my Mind, and transport it to sensible Ob-' jects which do not deferve it, and that my Affection is thereby weakened, whatever Care I take to gather it up and unite it. This hath a much more dangerous Effect upon the com-'mon People, who have no Knowledge, and ' whose Religion lies only in their Eyes and Ears; ' they do in an horrible Manner fasten on these 'Things, which are only obvious to their Sense, ' and go no higher.'

And shall these Things, which the sober Romanists themselves confess to be an Hinderance of Piety, destructive to Devotion, and sit to prevail upon none but Fools, be the Motives to rational Men, to leave the pure Worship of God.

⁽d) Ibid. p. 111. For this he cites, Hil. contr. Auxentium, & Hieron. ad Marcellam viduam.

God, to have their Eyes delighted by gaudy Shews, and their Ears pleased with all Sorts of Music? I doubt not but the Doctrine of Extasses and Raptures, so highly applauded in the Romish Church, hath its greatest Support from these external Glories, which are proper to raise the Affestions to such a pleasing Height, as renders them almost insensible; which, though only the Effect of the Pleasure the Senses are entertained with, are by them extolled as holy Motions, and divine Illuminations, while the Soul is not at all affected, or bettered by such

Transports.

There lies therefore an indifpenfible Obligation upon every Person, but especially upon fuch as, by their natural Dispositions, are apt to be affected by fuch Things, to keep a constant and severe Watch over their Affections, that they do not blind their Understandings; remembering Religion confifts in the Understanding and Will being rightly informed and directed, not in the Motion of the Spirits, and Tickling of the Senses; the Doctrine of the Gospel being defigned for the Good of Souls, never an Article of it calculated to gratify and please the Flesh. Besides, how unreasonable is it that those Things, which Antichrist shall boast of, and pride himself in, should be ever used as an Argument to proselyte any to a Party? As if they must needs be the only true Church, because in this they resemble Antichrist.

If Men would but seriously reslect, it is an easy Matter to perceive even from hence, that what I noted in the Introduction, of their De-

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figns, is true: For what doth all these glorious Shews tend to the making a Man wife unto Salvation, or the fitting him for the Enjoyment of God? All the Tendency they can have is to work upon Men's Affections, which, I before observed, is their main Design. Now we know that fuch Emotions are feldom permanent, which made the excellent Richerius (e), speaking of these Things, though himself a Papist, affirm, 'That those, who thought these " Methods would be long of Force, will in a ' little Time find themselves mightily deceived.' And this is not unknown to the Miffionaries, who therefore strike while the Iron continues hot, and ply the Person, whose Affections are thus raised with their Miracles, their Holiness and fuch Particulars, which we shall discourse of anon.

And I cannot think it one of the least weighty Considerations, to deter Men from being gulled by such Trisles, to reslect that these Things are designed either for such as have no real Sense of Religion, or to bring them to have none; the first Sort being very glad of such a Worship as gratisties their voluptuous Humours; and others, more soberly inclined, are thereby taught to worship God wholly in a sensual Manner, and so estranged from the pure and spiritual Part of Religion, which God alone delights in.

Neither is this Method only calculated for such, but they have likewise a singular Dexterity in accommodating themselves even to the Vices and

Corruptions they find Men most addicted to; if ambitious, they endeavour to feed that Humour; if voluptuous, to gratify them in that; if revengeful, they permit them to follow their Inclinations; if covetous, though of all Vices they are most enraged against that, yet, for a while, they can find a Way not to be grievous to them; and as pliable they are to the Prodigal. an Observation made of the Jesuits by several Doctors of the Sorbon in Paris; (f) 'They speak of nothing but Magnificence and Liberality to ' those who are vain; telling them, that by ' these Actions they establish their Reputation; and, the more to puff them up with fuch ' Conceits, they cite Examples to that Purpose:' Nay, left they should be terrified with the Torments of Purgatory after this Life, (g) Bellarmine affirms, 'That in probability there is a Purgatory ' where those Pains are not endured;' which is feconded by many of their Divines; who, together with Bellarmine, found it upon Revelations made to venerable Bede, and others: And (b) Aquila expresly and purposely defends this Opinion; and, left they should grow cold, considering they must not meet with sensual Joys in Heaven, all the Happiness of the Blessed Spirits confisting in the Vision of God, which these voluptuous Men cannot apprehend any great Delight in, they have therefore coined a new Description of that happy Place; affirming, (i) That

(g) Lib. 2. de Purg. c. 7.

(b) Moral Practice of the Jesuits, p. 386.

⁽f) Moral Practice of the Jesuits, p. 384, Lond. 1670, 8vo.

⁽i) Ibid. p. 388, 389. Note, that this Book, entitled, The Enfincs of the Saints in Heaven, was written by F. L. Hen-

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That there shall be a sovereign Pleasure in kis-' fing and embracing the Bodies of the Bleffed; ' that the Angels shall put on Women's Habits, ' and appear to the Saints in the Dress of Ladies; that Women shall rise with long Hair, and appear with Ribbands and Laces as they do upon Earth; that married People shall kiss one another, and their Children as in this Life.' Thus these subtil Deceivers will rather follow Mahomet's Steps, in afferting a fenfual Paradife, than lofe one of their Profelytes.

I neither defign here to enlarge upon this Subject, nor pretend to instance in all their Turnings and Artifices to this End: The first, because I refer it to another Head, when I come to treat of their disguising and varying their Doctrine; the latter, because I cannot pretend to do it, their Arts being numberless; but, by such Instances as these are, the Readet may easily discover them,

when they act a Part of the same Nature.

In Christmas, Ann. 1624, one Father Leech, told (k) Mr. J. Gee, 'That if any but hear ' Mass, and, after hearing, be sprinkled with holy Water, and kiss the Priest's Garments, he could not that Day commit any mortal Sin, though ' he would never so fain;' And my Author cites in the Margin, some (1) Authors who teach the fame; an excellent Maxim to make the greatest

Henriquez, approved by Fr. Prado, Provincial of Castile, Ap. 28, 1631, and allowed by Order of the General of the Jefuits, Mutius Vitelleschi.

(k) Gee's Foot out of the Snare, p. 13, Lond. 1624, 4to. 1) Barft. in Lib. Instit. The Propritiator, p. 74. Vid. F.tzfim. in Fin. Citat. in divers. loc.

Sin become none at all, and very much a-kin to

that, That God sees no Sin in his Children.

This fuiting themselves to the carnal Desires of Men is so usual among them, that (m) one of their own Authors could not forbear making this Observation. Do not you hear them how they

' speak plausibly to itching Ears, altering, fashion-'ing and re-fashioning their Religion, according

to the Will and Wantonness of them whose

Glory, next unto their own, they prefer before

' the Glory of God?'

This proftituting the holy Name of Christianity to serve the Interest of a Party, and making that God, in whom is no Variableness, and who is infinitely holy, to be the Author of such contrary and wicked Doctrines, is in itself so odious, and doth at first sight appear so unworthy, that I think it needless to make any Reslexions on it.

I shall close this Chapter with some Reslexions upon what I mentioned in the beginning, their great Pretences of Zeal for the Good of Souls, after I have briefly mentioned their remaining Arts, which they practise in their first Address; in endeavouring to discover the Capacities of those they deal with, that, if they should be of slow and heavy Understandings, they may deal with them as with such, where Arguments of the Nature of that Emblem before-mentioned, of Christ thrown into the Hopper, will be most proper: If they discover quick and sprightly Parts, all the

⁽m) Ebber in præf. in com. Philip. super. Christ. ad Cor. cited by Mr. Gee, p. 17. thus. An non audis dicentes grata multitudini, siccentes, fingentes, ac refingentes, religionem ad nutum & cupiditates Dominorum & cœtuum quorum gloriam nisi suam pluris faciunt quam gloriam Dei?

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ingenious Reflexions upon the Protestants, that they can call to mind, are with a pleafant Smile cast out, and they endeavour with all manner of of Address to render their Company acceptable and diverting; and when they have thus ingratiated themselves, if you speak of any of our Books or Divines, they will with a flighting Accent tell you, they are not worth their minding: As I remember objecting a Passage out of Dr. Stillingfleet against Idolatry to one of them, he replied, ' He mistook the Question so, that he had not ' Patience to read him;' tho' another went further, affirming, 'That he was either a Knave or a Dunce: Thus the Author of the Request to Protestants begins with such a magisterial Sentence against his Answerer; (n) 'That he con-' cluded it a Pamphlet unworthy of special No-' tice, and expected, if not more pertinent, yet ' at least more plausibly Replies, except Protestants " meant their Profession should be exposed by ' Silence, or a filly Defence, and for the future ' esteemed destitute of any divine Evidence.' Though what little Reason he had to say so the World hath fince feen, and I dare appeal to any impartial Person on their own Side, whether there be not more affected Scorn, than Truth in that fine Speech. Nay, they will not only make the World believe, that they despise us, but will express their Contempt even in the most unhandsome Language, (0) as Dr. Ruze, though a French-

(n) Protestancy destitute of Scripture-proofs, p. 1. 1687, 4to. (o) Acts of the Conf. at Paris in July and August, Ann. 1506, in the Preface, p. 8. Lond. 1602, 4to. This Conference was printed in the same Year, 1566, in French, with this Title, Conference entre deux Docteures de Sorbonne, & deux Ministres de l'Eglise resormee, 8vo.

man and at Paris, when the Ministers, Monsieur de Spina and Monsieur Barbaste, Minister to the Queen of Navarre, desired liberty to pray, before they began the Conference, which was then to be held, in the House of the Duke de Montpensier, told them, 'That if they would go pray, 'he would go to piss during the Time of Prayer.'

I cannot here forbear anticipating the next Chapter, by defiring the Reader, that, whenever he meets with such Carriage, he would make it rather a Subject for his Laughter, than his serious Thoughts; and, in the following Chapter, I shall give him some Reason for it: And I desire he would take this as a Maxim, to suspect every Thing they say, a Maxim very necessary to be observed, as an Antidote against their great Design in the beginning of a proselyting Intrigue; for I durst venture any Person among all their Reasons, if this infinuating Way of engaging Men's Affections were laid aside.

If Men would learn to love those who are of another Profession, while they hate their Errors and Superstitions, we might hope to see again the primitive Charity restored; and therefore, not-withstanding the Bitterness of Romish Spirits, and their great Kindnesses carrying a Design in them, it is our Duty to love their Persons, especially those who by particular Obligations deserve it: I know it is an usual Way among them, to enquire into the Wants and Conditions of others, and they know where to get Money to supply them, and are ready with all Officiousness to assist and oblige their Acquaintance, especially those they are tampering with; and though we see through these Artisices, yet we are bound to be

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be ly ready to do the same, or greater Kindnesses for them, if we are able: But, on the other side, our just Respect for them ought not to lessen our Love to Truth, or make us less diligent in searching after it; neither ought we to have such an Opinion of them, as to have a less Esteem for our Religion: To suffer that would be to love them more than God, and to concur with them to our own Deceiving in such unworthy Actions, as an honest Heathen would be ashamed of.

I know they have made feveral Converts by this one Artifice; 'They will go to a Person ' whom they know to be under Straits, and, a-' mong other Arguments, infift on the Want of ' Charity in our Church, and advise them to go to some of our Ministers, and see what they will do for them: Upon this some of them have come to fome Divines whom I could ' name, and that very lately, complaining of their ' Wants, and that there is no Provision made for ' them, relating what Proffers they have from the Gentlemen of the Church of Rome, if they ' will be of that Church.' Now for a Minister to maintain these People is impossible, all that he can do being to give them some present Relief. This the Priests make their Advantage of, remonstrating how true it is, that, as they affirmed, our Church is void of Charity, which fo abounds in theirs; that, if they will be reconciled, they shall have a plentiful Allowance; which gilded Bait hath been greedily swallowed by too many. I cannot say, that they have kept their Words with none, but I know there are feveral, whom they have gained by this

Means, who, being once made fure by the (p) Oath, which they make them take, have their Allowances taken off, under Pretence that the Stock is exhausted by the Multitude of Converts,

and they are able to continue it no longer.

From feveral Instances, which may be produced of this Kind, it were an easy Matter to form very strong Arguments against too much Credulity; but our holy Religion needing no worldly Confideration to uphold it, I shall only reason from the Weakness of a Change, which is begun to be effected by fuch an Artifice; it being one of the most heinous Sins to chuse a Religion for Profit's fake, and incompatible with true Holiness. Seeing worldly Gains are so far from being permitted to have any Force in a Soul endued with that, that the being Christ's Disciple infers a Renunciation of them all; from whence I may draw another Proof; 'That the ' Design of those Gentlemen is not to inform ' Men's Understandings, but, so they get them ' to their Side, they have their End.' But this I refer to the second Part, where I design to treat more particularly of this Method.

There is yet another Effect, which the Readiness of the Missionaries, to oblige those they deal with, is designed to produce, the creating such a

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⁽p) See the Oath in the Pontifical, Edit. Colon. 1682, p. 450, 451, 8vo. Where, after they have professed Obedience to the Pope, they go on thus, 'Jurans dico per Deum omipotentem, & fancta Dei Evangelia, me in unitate & com-

munione præmissis in concuste mansurum. Et si (quod absit)

ab hac me unitate aliqua occasione vel argumento divisero,

perjuris reatum incurrens æternæ obligatus pænæ inveniar,

[&]amp; cum auctore schismatis habeam in futuro sæculo portio-

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good Opinion of them, as shall incline Men to be guided by their Directions: This I mentioned before, but chose to insist upon it here, because it is usually furthered by the Opinion of Zeal and Love to Souls, which, by their Words and Gestures, they endeavour to drive the People into a Belief of.

But here it is to be confidered, that a fair Carriage is not the Sign of a Messenger of Truth, but may be and is found in Deceivers and false Prophets; (9) our Saviour having long fince told us, that false Prophets come in Sheep's Cloathing; and the great Apostle of the Gentiles informs us, that with (r) good Words and fair Speeches they deceive the Hearts of the Simple; and therefore is the more earnest with the (s) Colossians, because he knew Deceivers would use enticing Words; fuch going about for that End, who have a (t) Form of Godliness, though not the Power; and for these who go about in the Name of Christ to promote their own Ends, with Words (u) smoother than Butter, our Saviour, when he told us of them, gave us likewise a Rule how to deal with them, (x) ye shall know them by their Fruits, not by their outward Actions; for none are more outwardly strict than Deceivers, but by their Doctrines; if they be not of God, all the rest is Sheep's Cloathing, but Pretence to Innocence and Sincerity, when the Essence of it is wanting; that Sheep's Cloathing being expounded by the Romanists themselves to imply (y) an affected Sim-

⁽q) Matt. vii. 15. (r) Rom. xvi. 18. (s) Col. ii. 4. (t) Tim. iii. 5. (u) Pfal. lv. 21. (x) Mat. vii. 16. (y) Lucas Brugensis, in loc. Edit. Antwerp, 1606.

Simplicity and Sincerity, (2) enticing Words and specious Works. Now for any Man to be caught with these, which are the special Properties of false Prophets and Deceivers, would appear incredible, if Experience did not shew how little the Cautions of our Saviour are reflected on, which renders fuch weak Persons the less capable of Excuse, because, though they were warned

of this Snare, they would not avoid it.

This Shew of Zeal and Piety (we are told, by the Jesuit (a) Acosta) will be industriously affected by the Messengers of Antichrist, whereby, he fays, they will enfhare many heedless * and unthinking Souls; which makes that Caution of the Wife-man absolutely necessary to be frequently reflected on, and diligently observed, (b) when he speaketh fair, believe him not; for, if the Antichristian Emissaries shall bid as fair for the good Opinion of Men by fuch specious Pretence, how great an Indifference ought every one to preserve for all Persons, till they see their Fruits?

This is equally the Duty of all Sides, neither can we be too suspicious in Matters of our eternal Concern, where nothing but evident Proof from divine Authority should prevail with us: For, in Obedience to the Command of St. John (c) to try the Spirits whether they are of God, it is our Bu-

finess

(z) Maldonat. in loc. Edit. Mogunt. 1624.

⁽a) Joseph. Acosta de noviss. tempor. lib. 2. c. 20. Edit. Lugd. 1592, 8vo. Ad fignorum magnitudinem accedet apta & composita ad decipiendum sanctitatis simulatio, qua solet (sc. Antichristu:) homines parum cautos externa specie vehementer al-

⁽b) Prov. xxvi. 25.

finess to receive no Doctrine till it is confirmed by the Word of God; this Suspicion and Caution is recommended to us by the great Champion of the Romanists at Oxford; so that all Reason concurs to excite us to that Diligence, for which the Apostle Paul so highly commends the Inhabitants of (d) Berea, that they would not believe what be taught, till, by searching the Scriptures, they found be agreed with them.

I know indeed the Gentlemen of the Church of Rome will not allow such a Search; but the aforesaid (e) Author expressly affirms, 'That, 'when new Doctrines come into the World, 'Christians are directed to try such Doctrines, 'whether they be of God;' which is all I at

present plead for.

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Antier alIf I should urge to this End, the same Reafon which Solomon does, where he gives this Advice, (f) He that hateth, dissembleth with his Lips, and layeth up Deceit within him; when he speaketh fair, believe him not; for their are seven Abominations in his Heart. I could find several Instances, given by their own Divines, to justify such a Caution; but, because this Chapter is lengthened beyond what I at first intended, I shall remit them to another Place, and mention only the Instance of Mr. Parsons, the samous Writer against King James's Succession to the Crown, and in Desence of the Pope's deposing Power; of whom several (g) French Divines observe,

⁽d) Act. xvii, 10, 11.

⁽e) Considerations on the Spirit of Martin Luther, p. 2. Oxford, 1687, 4to.

⁽f) Prov. xxvi. 24, 25.

⁽g) Jesuits Catech. Pref. p. 9, Edit. 1604, 4to.

observe, 'That no Man's Writings are fuller of Spite than his: But it is mixed with such Floods of Crocodile-tears, when he is most spiteful, that he then always pretends so much Charity and Tenderness, as if every hard Word he uses went to his very Heart; by which the simpler Sort are greatly blinded.' Nay, they are so used to this Pretence of Love to Souls, that in the Inquisition, when they are tormenting a Heretic, as they call him, with the greatest Torments, they pretend all is out of Love to his Soul; though all the World knows, 'That Tortures make no real Converts; and confequently, seeing they can have no Effect upon the Soul, they can do that no good.'

I know it is very hard for one, whose Difposition is ingenious, to guard himself from such Influations; and, therefore I have been the more prolix, in fetting forth the Command of our Saviour, and the Necessity of being very watchful over ourselves, lest, out of a Piece of Goodnature, we throw away our Souls, and make shipwreck of the Faith. Let us endeavour to have a real Love for them, and our Defires for their Salvation be fincere and fervent; but, till they can shew us a Church that doth more fincerely advance the great Ends of Holiness and Piety, Let us hold fast the Profession of our Faith without wavering (b); and not throw away ourselves out of Love to others, as those unfortunate Gentlemen (i) who, purely out of Love

(b) Heb. x. 23.

⁽i) Mr. Rockwood, and Sir Everard Digby. See the Gunpowder-treason, with a Discourse of the Manner of its Discovery, p. 125, 127. Lond. 1679, 8vo.

[35]

Love to Catesby, became Partakers of his Guilt, in the Gunpowder-treason, and so lost their Fame, their Lives, and greatly hazarded their Souls.

CHAP. II.

Of their strange Confidence, in asserting any Thing that may tend to their Advantage.

O strengthen that Advice with which I concluded the former Chapter, it is an excellent Observation, no less true than ingenious, made by an eminent (k) Divine, who had lived seventeen Years abroad among the Romanists, (1) 'That the proper Genius, and as it were the universal Spirit of that Church, consists much in a Con-fidence to raise any Thing which they have, although that were but a Dung-hill, into a ' Castle; and, by the Noise of strange Expresfions, to perfuade you out of your own Know-' ledge, that you may believe the Enchant-'ment. Transubstantiation, &c. had been as ' foon tumbled down as started up, had they ' not been kept on foot by this kind of Roman ' Hectoring.' Which is so fit a Character for their Carriage, that there are no Men in the World, to whom the Appellation of spiritual Hectors so properly belongs, as to these Gentlemen; all the Brags, feigned Stories, huffing Expressions,

(1) Ibid. p.

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⁽k) Dr. Brevint, Saul and Samuel at Endor. Præf. p. 5. Oxon, 1674, 4to.

confident Affertions, and supercilious Looks, which are the very constituent Qualities of those we call Hectors, are so exactly copied by these Men, that an indifferent Person would be ready to conclude the Difference to be very small,

if any.

They do with much Unconcernedness insist upon the common Arguments of their Predeceffors, without taking the least notice of the Answers which have been made to them, yea, reiterate the very fame Objections to the fame Person who has answered them before; like Flies, which, although you drive them away, will still return and never cease to trouble you: So these Men, after you have refuted all their Objections, come to you again, and produce the fame Things, as if they were new: And, as Flies bring others with them, and all together make one and the fame Buzzing; fo, when you can fuffer these People no longer, they send you their Emissaries and Disciples, you see many new Faces, but you hear still the same Song, and fee them go round the same Circle; infomuch that (m) Monsieur Drelincourt professes, 'That one certain Objection hath been made * him, and refuted above an hundred times.'

This excellent Method our present Controvertists are so fond of, that they do not scruple to propose Objections verbatim out of Authors, who have not only been several times resuted, but convicted of the greatest Insincerity and wilful Forgery: The Author of the (n) Fifth Part

(n) Oxford, 1687, 4to.

⁽m) Drelincourt's Protestants Self-defence, in the Preface, Lond. 1685, 12mo.

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Part of Church-Government hath copied out of Sanders, who not only reviles our Princes with all the bitter Words of an overflowing Gall, and died in open Rebellion; but hath been often refuted, and convined of Forgery by several, and particularly by Dr. Burnet, in his History of the Reformation, from public Records; and, in pleading against our Ordination, hath brought no Arguments, but such as were distinctly replied to by (0) Archbishop Bramball, Mr. (p) Mason, and Dr. (q) Burnet; the two first long since, and the last very lately, transcribing (as the learned Resector observes) 'not only the Matter, but the very Form of those Arguments, 'which have been so often consuted.'

And the Collector of (that Book so much admired among them, and recommended at this very Day by no less a Person than the Vindicator of the (r) Bishop of Condom) the Nubes Testium hath exactly trranscribed that notorious Plagiary Alexandre Natalis, whose wretched Falsiscations have been several times exposed, and particularly in the Point of Images by (s) Spanbemius, to say nothing of our own Divines; and yet this Disturber of Antiquity copies even his very Forgeries, without the least Notice of the little

(p) Vind. Eccles. Ang. Lond. 1625, fol.

(s) Spanhemii Histor. Imaginum, Ludg: Batav. 1686, 8vo.

⁽o) In his Consecration of Protestant Bishops vindicated in the first Tome of his Works. Dublin, 1676, fol. & in Tom. 4.

⁽q) In his History of the Reformation, Lond. 1679, fol. and his Vindication of the Ordination of the Church of England, Lond. 1677, 8vo.

⁽r) Reply to the Defect of the Exposition of the Doctrine of the Church of England, p. 3. of the Preface, Lond. 1687, 4to.

little Credit he is of among the Romanists them-felves.

If at any time they apprehend a Rub in their Way, either from any Doctrine or Practice of their own, or any Passage of the antient Fathers, it is almost incredible with what prodigious Assurance they will deny it. Wherein they have an excellent Example set them by the Bishop of Meaux, who, writing to the new Converts of his Diocese very gravely tells them, (t) 'That' not one of them hath suffered Violence either

' in his Person or Goods; so far have you been, faith he, from suffering Torments, that you

' have not so much as heard them mentioned;

I hear other Bishops affirm the same; but for

you, my Brethren, I say nothing to you, but what you may speak as well as I, you are re-

' turned peaceably to us, you know it.'

This strange Assertion, coming from a Perfon of his Character, was received at Paris with such Surprise, that Men began presently to believe, he would strike it out of the next Edition; so that the Author of the (u) Republique des Lettres was inclinable to credit that Report, because Men of Sense would complain in their Minds to be thus eternally wearied with these Pretences, that the Huguenots signed the Formulary with all the Readiness in the World; but, instead

(t) Bishop of Meaux's Pastoral Letter, p. 3, 4. Lond. 1686, 4to.

⁽u) Nouvelle de la Republique des Lettres Juin, 1686, p. 736. Il est apparent que M. de Meaux retranchera l'endroit cidessus marques, & que les Gens d'honueur se plaindront in petto de ce qu'on se tue de leur sou tenir, que les Huguenots ont signe le Formulaire le plus volontairement du monde.

instead of that, in his Letter of May the 13th, this present Year, he confirms that bold Passage with a (x) ' folemn Protestation in the Presence of God, who is to judge the Quick and Dead, ' that he spoke nothing but the Truth, and that he never defigned to expunge that Clause.

It is not without a fenfible Regret, that I relate this Passage, but, when a Person of his Quality, and refined Wit, shall with so great Solemnity impose upon the World, wherein so many thousands can convince him of Imposture, and call God to witness to so notorious an Untruth, we may well expect to meet with very little Sincerity from others, who are so great Admirers of this Bishop.

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It is a very true and just Remark made by a late (y) Author, 'That his Majesty's Brief ' alone may serve for a Consutation of so shameful an Affertion, and shew us how little we can rely upon these Gentlemen, when they ' talk to us of Things that were done twelve or fourteen Years ago, that make no Scruple of dealing thus with us in a Matter of Fact,

(x) Present State of the Controversy between the Church of England and the Church of Rome, p. 22. Lond. 1687, 4to.

⁽x) On parle encore dans cette cinquieme objection de ceque jaydit dans ma Lettre Pastorale touchant ce qui c'est passe dans le Diocesse de Meaux, & dans pusieurs autes, dont les Evesques mes confrere & mes amis n'avoient fait le recit; & moi je perfift à dire, dans les y ieux de Dieu, qui jugera les vivans & les morts, que je n'ay rien dit que de veritable; & que l'Autheur de le Republique des Lettres avoit rezen un mauvais memoire, quand il a dit que je retranchierois cet Article dans les Editions suivantes, puisque, je n'ay ay pas seul meat Songe. Reply to the Defence of the Exposit. of the Doctrine of the Church of England, p. 181.

' in the Sight of the World, before whose Eyes ' these Things are acted:' To which I may add the Witness all Countries can bear to the contrary, where Multitudes of those poor, distressed, persecuted Christians have taken sanctuary. But, for the particular Matters of Fact in that Prelate's' Diocese, my (z) Author informs us, 'That, ' as far as he can learn, the Dragoons, by whom ' they make their Proselytes, were not lodged ' in the Bishopric of Meaux, but they came up ' to the very Gates of the City. Being thus ' in Sight of their Danger, and expecting every ' Minute when it would fall upon them, the ' Bishop thought that certainly now, if ever, ' they would be disposed to a Compliance: So that, though not tortured, they were frighted into it. With this Advantage he invites them ' to a Conference, appears more moderate than even his own Exposition; and desires very lit-' tle more of them, than what any one might venture to subscribe. Such Advances, backed with the Terrors of the Dragoons at the Gates, ' prevailed upon them; upon which the Dragoons were dismissed. How this agrees with ' not so much as hearing Violences mentioned, and returning peaceably, is only for them to make out, who are are so good at reconciling ' Contradiction; especially if we look on his ' Carriage afterwards, when (a) he actually pro-' ceeded to mention Violence; for he threatened ' those that would not come, and quartered ' the Dragoons upon the Obstinate; and parti-' cularly on Monsieur de Seguier, Cousin to

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the late Chancellor of that Name, who are to this Day Prisoners on that Account.' Nay, this same Gentleman, who so gravely tells us, he heard the same from other Bishops, viz. That there was no Force used, did, in a Letter (b), dated but a sew Days after that wherein he denies any Violence to be used to the Protestants, both own and justify the Persecution to a Person of Quality who had escaped out of France, and he desired to reclaim; which kindled such an Indignation in that honourable Person, that he printed the Bishop's Letter to him: And yet can this Prelate appeal to God, concerning the Truth of that which he had contradicted under his own Hand?

We need not wonder at his fingular Dexterity in this Matter, seeing it hath been his chief Employment, as a Bishop, to make Proselytes, and it would be a great Wrong to his quick Apprehension, to suspect his being thoroughly versed in the Artifices necessary for accomplishing his End: Which is an Opinion none, that is conversant in his Works, can well be of, he having taken so much Care to surnish us with Instances of his Excellency therein. For being charged by the learned (c) Expositor of the Doctrine of our Church, with teaching Prayer to Saints in such a Manner, as that it was directly contrary to the same Doctrine as

(b) His Pastoral Letter bears Date, March 24; and this to the Gentleman, April 4.

⁽c) Expessit. of the Doctrine of the Church of England, P. 7, of the Preface, Lond. 1686, 4to.

laid down in (d) Father Craffet's Book on that Subject, by his (e) Letter of April 6th, 1686, (f) affirms, 'he never read that Jesuit's Discourse, neither ever heard it mentioned, that ' it was contrary to his Exposition; which he ' again afferts in his Letter of May 13, 1687. ' Now to prove this of the same Stamp with ' the former Passage, the very Looking into the '(g) Bishop's Book of Communion under one ' Kind, where he is answering Monsieur Jurieux, ' who objects that Book of Father Craffet a-' gainst his Lordship, and spends several Pages ' to prove, that it plainly contradicts his Expofition, is fufficient. So that we must either conclude the Bishop answered a Book which ' he never read, or that his Protestation, that ' he never heard there was any Thing in that ' Jesuit's Book contrary to his, must be untrue.' For he could not peruse Monsieur Jurieux's Discourse, without finding the Difference insisted This was urged against him by his (b) Adversary, but he thinks fit in his Reply to take no notice of it; contenting himself with an unjust Reflection upon that French Divine, but never offers to weaken this Argument, which had been alledged purposely to prove his Affertion

⁽d) La veritable devotion envers la St. Vierge, Par. 1679, 4to.

⁽e) Vindication of the Bishop of Condom's Exposition, p. 115, Lond. 1686, 4to.

⁽f) Reply to the Defence, &c. p. 181.

⁽g) Edit. Paris, 1681, 12mo.

⁽b) Defence of the Exposition of the Doctrine of the Church of England, p. 114, Lond. 1686, 4to.

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fertion false; and which will always remain as an unanswerable Instance of his Insincerity; unless he sly for Resuge to that equivocating Shift, that he never heard Father Crasses's Doctrine was different from his, though he had indeed read a Discourse which affirmed that it was, which is an Excuse sit for such a Cause, and the best that it will ever bear.

There feems to be a kind of Conspiracy among the French Clergy to deny this Persecution, or, at least, to represent it as neither so violent or universal as indeed it is; to which Purpose it is (i) affirmed, in a Discourse, said to be written by Order of the Clergy, under this Title, A Letter from a Church-man to a Friend 'That there were not forty Churches of Protestants demolished, in the ten Years preceding ' the Year Eighty-two, when it is notoriously ' known, that, in the Province of Poitou alone ' near that Number were pulled down; and the Agent of the Clergy had, the May be-' fore, faid, at the Opening of the Assembly, ' that the King had demolished an infinite Number of them.

But it is not particular Actions only, which they are so ready to deny and disclaim; but, if any Authors, whether Fathers, or of a later Date, of whatsoever Kind, be objected to them, they reckon it a good and sufficient Answer, either to deny that there are such Authors, or that they wrote those Books, or that the Passages insisted on are to be found in them; or, if all

(i) See Last Efforts of afflicted Innocency, p. 5, 6, Lond. 1682, 8vo.

these may be too evident to be handsomely denied, they have then some wrested Interpretation, which, without any Hesitancy, they will offer as the Sense of the Author they are pressed with.

This Liberty of rejecting Books, when they are pressed with them, is not only practised but defended; (k) Vasquez telling us, 'That it is frequent among the Catholics, when they are urged ' with Testimonies out of the Councils or Fathers, . to deny that they are theirs, and this, he fays, is the readiest, and often the best Refuge they can 'find: And (1) Baronius, being prest with a Passage 'out of Clement's Constitutions, answers, That he 'might deny the Authority of them, which he 'affirms to be a very justifiable Shift.' This is confessed by the Authors of the (m) Index Expurgatorius Belgicus to be their usual Practice, and they give Directions how to improve it; which the Missionaries are very observant of, as the Experience of those who converse with them may eafily discover.

'I remember, when I urged one of them with the Novelty of Transubstantiation, he told me, It was so far from being new, that it was never questioned, till Berengarius opposed it; when

(k) De Cultu Adorat. lib. 2. disput. 5. c. 3. Mogunt. 1601, 8vo. Speaking of Alanus Copus and Sanders denying the Epistle to J. Hierosol. to be his, saith, Id commune etiam & frequens effugium esse folet iis qui testimoniis conciliorum, aut Patrum in aliqua controversia nimis premuntur.

(1) Ad Ann. 32. N. 18, 19.

⁽m) In Catholicis veteribus plurimos feramus errores & extenuemus, excusemus, excogitato commento persæpe negemus, & commodum iis sensum affingamus, dum opponuntur in disputationibus, aut in conflictionibus cum adversariis. Index Expurg. qui hoc seculo prodierunt, Edit. 1586, 12mo.

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I defired him to call to mind, that Bertram lived some Ages before that he mentioned, he replied in a great Heat, there was no such Man; and, turning to the Company, desired them to take notice how we coined Authors at our Pleasure; but when I undertook to justify both, that there was such a Writer who opposed their Doctrine, and had satisfied those who were present, he had no Way to come off; but by pretending he mistook the Name. But I could not prevail with him to tell who it was he supposed I named.

'When Campion, the Jesuit, who made such a Bustle with his Brags of challenging the Universities, was (n) prest with some Texts out of the Book of Judith, to prove that she was not inspired by God, he confidently affirmed, there were no fuch Passages, though it was presently ' proved, that they were to be found in the Vul-' gar Latin: And Mr. Chark, (o) alledging Tertullian against Hermogenes, in Defence of the Sufficiency of the Scripture, Mr. Campion ' first denied, that Tertullian wrote the Book, and, being convinced of that, without reading the ' Place, he immediately of his own Head began ' a Discourse of the Father's Design therein; as if it were revealed to him by Inspiration, for he had just before disclaimed the Knowledge of any fuch Piece of Tertullian's: Which Way of Expounding the Fathers and Scripture at random he was so in love with, that, in the last Conference, being pressed with that Passage of our Saviour,

⁽n) Conference with Campion in the Tower, p. 134, Lond. 1583, 4to. (o) Ibid. 146, 147.

viour, (p) Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and bim only shalt thou serve; (q) from whence Mr. Clark inferred, That as the Text of Deuter onomy, Thou shalt worship no strange Gods, (r) justified our Saviour's adding the Word Only, him only shalt thou serve; so we, by the same Warrant and Words, do, in the Question of Justification, take the Words (s) not by Works, (t) not by Law, to import as much as Faith only, for all Works whatfoever being excluded by these negative Speeches, Faith alone remaineth.

' To evade this Mr. Campion, with his usual

' Boldness, replied, that the Word Worship doth ' of necessity infer so much, and therefore Christ

' did well to expound it by Only: But it was

onot fo in the other Instance. Where, by en-

' deavouring to out-face that Argument, he gave ' up the whole Cause of Worshipping Images and

' Saints; by confessing, that God alone is to be

' worshipped.'

And the Jesuit Cotton, Confessor to Henry the Great of France, (u) when Carolus Scribanius, under the feigned Name of Bonarscius, had published his Book, wherein he defended the Power of Popes over the Lives and Temporalities of Kings,

(p) Ibid. p. 166.

(9) Mat. iv. 10.

(r) Chap. vi. 14. (t) Rom. iii. 21.

(s) Rom. ix. 11. Gal. ii. 16.

(u) Hospin. Histor. Jesuit, p. 222, 223, Edit. Tig. 1670, Pater Cotton, tum dixit eum librum nequaquam à suæ Societatis hominibus emanasse, sed Genevæ ad constandum Jesuitis odium fictum ab hæreticis fuisse. Qui tamen postea, longe aliter, quid sentiret, expressit, laudato Scribanii opere & distributis multis illius exemplaribus, atque etiam claro admodum viro commendaret eum, tanquam juventuti Latinis literis imbuendæ apprime utile, &c.

finding how ill it was resented at the Court of France, confidently afferted, 'That it was a Book written by the Heretics, and published only to make the Jesuits odious:' And yet the same Man, when he had Opportunity, highly commended the very same Book; as very sit for the Instruction of Youth, and was a Means of di-

fperfing many Copies of it.

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Let the impartial Reader but reflect on this Carriage, which is fo univerfally approved among them, and he will find it was not without Reafon, that I defired of him in the former Chapter, to distrust every Thing they say. It was a Habit, I was very unwilling to endeavour after, till my Experience of their Way of Writing, and Observations of their Discourses, convinced me of the absolute Necessity, all who deal with them lie under to attain it; for I cannot call to mind any one of their Books, nor remember any particular Conversation, which I have been engaged in with them, wherein I have not met with fuch shuffling and infincere Answers, offered with as grave a Countenance, and as much Assurance as if there was no Juggling at the Bottom.

To alledge all the Instances, which the late Passages of this Nature furnish us with, would be as troublesome to the Reader, as tedious to me. (x) The Oxford Champion gives Luther the Lie, for quoting a Passage, which, though this civil Gentleman is pleased to deny it, is in the Author be professes to take it from: The late (y) Bishop of

Meath

(y) See his Letter in the Pretace to the History of the Ir sh Rebellion, Lond. 1680, fol.

⁽x) See Answer to the Considerations on the Spirit of Martin Luther, p. 12, 13, Oxford, 1687, 4to.

Meath assures us, 'There are, who, contrary to all Evidence, confidently aver, write and open-

by proclaim to the World, that there was no

Rebellion in Ireland in 1641; but they them-

felves, the Irish and Papists of Ireland, were then the Sufferers, and the Protestants the first

'Aggressors;' which they back with such Confidence, that the Bishop assures us, 'It hath al-

ready gained great Belief with many.'

An eminent Divine, lately discoursing with some of the Roman Church, and producing the Roman Breviary, in Confirmation of the Point he was insisting on, one of them very considently told him, 'That it was forged by the Pro'testants;' and, when he offered the Passion-week, printed in English at Paris, he met with the same Answer. And at this Day they spread among their People a Report, that the Reason of the few Hardships (for they strive to represent them as sew as possible) of the French Protestants is, because they designed to rebel against the King.

It is almost incredible what a Multitude of such Instances might be given, and as strange, that Men, who, pretend to so much Religion, should be guilty of them; but they find the Effects of them so pleasing, that there is no Hope they should ever be prevailed on to relinquish these unhandsome Methods, and behave themselves with more Modesty and Respect to Truth: For hereby they have possessed their People with salse Notions, and silled their Heads with such invented Stories, that they look upon us as a Parcel of Men, who can neither write nor speak Truth; insomuch that, but a few Days ago,

'when

when I offered to a Gentleman of that Communion to prove his Church guilty of forging Authors, and altering the genuine Works of

the antient Fathers and modern Divines, he replied, That he was so sure of the contrary,

' that, though I should swear it, he would never

believe it true; nay, if I should shew him the very Books, he was sure they must be some of

our own making, and therefore would give no

Credit to them.

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Just such an Encounter (2) Mr. Crashaw had with some of the same Religion upon this Subject; when, 'objecting the Index Expurgatorius, they presently replied, It was never done by the Catholic Church, but it was some Trick of Beza or Junius, devised to disgrace the Ca-' tholic Cause. To justify his Accusation he produced Stella on Luke, which was purged, as the Title itself declared, according to the Rules of that Index; they answered, The Title might be put in by some of us in Malice, to make ' the World believe the Romish Church did what they have not done. Nay, when he produced ' Possevine, the Jesuit, affirming, that he was so ' purged, they would not be satisfied but still declared, There was no fuch Thing. And this ' is the Case of many thousands at this Day a-

Neither is this confident Trick, of afferting whatever they fancy may advance their Cause, practised only when they are pressed with an Argument or Authority; but, in their own Arguments

(2) See. his Falsificationum Romanarum, Tomi primi, Liber primus, in the Preface, Lond. 1606, 4to.

guments against us, they will not stick to publish the greatest Falsities, if it may either create an ill Opinion of us, or enhance their People's Esteem for them. Their usual Entrance is with great Boasts of their Cause, and that, if their Enemies dare meet them, the World shall see with how much Ease they will baffle all their Arguments, though the 'Jesuit, (a) Gontiere, was fadly foiled, when having fo far prevailed, upon Monfieur Liembrun, that the Gentleman had promised to become a Romanist, after a Conference which he defired the Jesuit would hold with Dr. Du Moulin; when the Confe-' rence began, he was fo puzzled to prove his own ' Mission, that, after much turning over the Bible, he retired filent and in Confusion to a Corner of the Room: Upon which Monsieur ' Liembrun, in Indignation, addressed himself to Gontiere. Father, faid he, you told me, that, if I brought a Minister before you, you would con-' found bim; bere is one, and you stand dumb.' Upon which the Gentleman was confirmed in

And Mr. Campion, notwithstanding all his Brags and vain Challenges, was so miserably bassled, in the four Conferences held with him in the Tower, that, whoever reads the Relation, published by his own Party, will have other Thoughts of his Abilities and Learning, than he could possibly form from the Idea, the Commendations given of him by the Missionaries might prevail with him to entertain.

his Religion.

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⁽a) See Du Moulin's Life, p. 14, 15, prefixed to his Prevelty of Popery, Edit. Lond. 1664, fol.

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These Brags having raised the Expectation of the People to Admiration, they are well prepared to feed the Humour, in which the Description given of (b) Monsieur Maimbourg is a Character of their Conduct, That they have no regard to Truth or Likelihood in what they affert; and, though, I know there are many among them who abhor such Practices, yet the much greater Number of them do all copy after the same Pattern.

When the ingenious Author, of the (c) Papists Misrepresented and Represented, would establish the Books, which our Church rejects for Apocrypha, as a Part of the Canon of Scripture, he cites St. Gregory Nazianzen and St. Ambrofe, neither of whom have any Thing to the Purpose; the first only mentions the Persons of the Maccabees, and commends them; and the latter quotes them as we do any other Books, but hath not the least Tittle of their being Part of the facred Canon: But, thinking to establish two Points by one Authority, he tells us in the fame Chapter, 'That St. Jerome doubted of the Book of Judith, which for some time seemed to ' him Apocryphal, till the Council of Nice de-' clared it otherwise.'

Now though I doubt not it was his Defign, to establish the Authority both of a General Council, and the Book of Judith by this one Instance, yet he hath unhappily failed in both; the Confidence with which he backs this Affirmation

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⁽b) Reflections on Mr. Varillas, p. 14, Amsterd. 1686, 12mo.

⁽c) Edit. Lond. 1685, Chap. 11.

being all the Strength of it; for it was impossible there should be any Truth in it, seeing, when the Council of Nice sat, St. Jerome was either not born, or but two Years old; and the Council made no Decree at all about the Books of Scripture, yet doth that witty Author venture these three Untruths in one Chapter, as if, because setting a good Face on the Matter prevails with the People of his Communion, who are kept from examining what they hear affirmed, we must therefore believe all he saith with the same implicit Faith.

But when Baronius and Bellarmine, those Champions of the Church of Rome, (d) care not by what Means they establish the Doctrine of the Pope's Power, which is the Character given of them by a learned Man of their own Communion; their Unfaithfulness being so obvious, that a (e) Franciscan Frier yet living observes, 'That' the great Annalist, Baronius, seems to have had no other End in writing his 12 laborious Tomes, than to heap together, how well or ill soever,

' all the Topics he could imagine, for affert-' ing to the Bishop of Rome the universal Mo-

' narchy.'

When we find that Pillar of the Cause pointing out the Way to the inferior Missionaries, it is no wonder if an exact Imitaion of these great Examples be affected by them; and indeed this Disposition is so natural to the Guides of that

(e) Walsh. Hist. of the Irish Remonstrance, Pref. to the Cath. p. 9, Edit. Lond. 1674, fol.

⁽d) Richer. Histor. Council. Gen. lib. 4, par. 2, p. 135. Quibus viris hoc propositum esse nemo nescit ut temporalem Curiæ Romanæ Monarchiam quovis jure vel injuria vendicent.

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that Church, that no fooner can a Profelyte breathe among them, but he is running in the same Path: Thus Mr. (f) Creffy very feriously attempts to perfuade the World, that, when Examination is made of Miracles, in order to the Canonization of any Saint, the Testimony of Women will not be received, for which he gives this Reason, because naturally Imagination is stronger in them than Judgment, and whatever is esteemed by them to be pious is easily concluded by them to be true; but, though there be very much Weight in this Reason, yet the Matter of Fact is so notoriously false, that there is scarce any of them noted Saints, in the Process of whose Canonization we do not find the Oaths of Woman pass current, nay, sometimes without any other Testimony to confirm them; for, as his Right Hon. and learned Answerer observes, 'The fingle Testimony of the Nurse was the only Evidence of the first Miracle that St. Benedict, (Mr. (g) Creffy's great Patron) wrought: And in the Canonization of Ignatius Loyola, the Founder of the Jesuits, the Attestation of Isabella Monialis was taken to confirm his working Miracles: And yet, no doubt, this plaufible Affertion of Mr. Crefsy's passes for Truth among very many, who, being destitute of Opportunities to discover the Mistake, yield firm Credit to it, because it is confidently advanced.

There is nothing more frequent in these Gentlemen's Mouths, than all the Fathers are of this Opinion,

(g) Ibid. and p. 67.

⁽f) See Animadversions upon Fanaticism fanatically imputed to the Catholic Church, by the Lord Clarendon, 7. 66, Lond. 1674, 8vo.

Opinion, Antiquity is unanimous in this Point, and fuch like bold Expressions; though they deserve as much Credit as Mr. Cressy's Pretence, and very little more.

For though Mr. (b) Mumford, the Jesuit, tells us, That the Text of St. Paul, Let a Bishop be the Husband of one Wife, was only a Permission at that Time, when it was impossible to find fit Men for that Office who were finegle; (an Affertion perfectly false) that the Apostle would have no Man who married a ' fecond Wife be made a Bishop; and that the Text is fo interpreted by the Councils ' and Fathers unanimously,' St. (i) Chrysoftome will tell him, that this Text is fo far from being only a Permission of Marriage for a Time, that it is defigned for encreasing the Esteem of it: And, if he pleases to consult him in another (k) Homily upon the same Subject, he will find, that the Interpretation, he calls ridiculous, is given by that great Divine; 'The Apostle, saith he, forbiddeth Excess, because, ' among the Jews, the Association of a second ' Marriage was lawful, and to have two Wives ' at once:' So that all the Fathers we see are not unanimous in his Exposition, though he is pleased to say they are; and if we are, as he tells us in the same Place, ridiculous in interpreting the Words of St. Paul in this Sense, 'that ' a Bishop should have but one Wife at once,'

(h) Cathol. Scripturist, p. 191, Lond. 1686, 8vo.

⁽i) Το πράγμα, εκ έςιν ενάγες, αλλά έτω τίμιου ως μετ αυτέ δύναθαι κ) επὶ τον άγιον αναβαίνειν θρόνον. Hom. 2, in Tit.

⁽k) Την αμετρίαν κωλύων ἐπειδη ἐπὶ τῶν Ινδαΐων ἐξῆν, κὰ ἔεὐτέρας ὁμιλεῖν γαμου κὰ δυὸ ἔχειν κατὰ ταυτὸν γυναίκας. Ηισπ. 3, in 1 Tim.

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we have very good Authority for being so; though his Consideration, or Sincerity, was but small, when he tells us all the Fathers are unanimous of his Side, and that it is ridiculous to dissent from him.

With the same Briskness we are told by the (1) Irish Animadverter on the Bishop of Bath and Wells's Sermon, 'That Melchisedec's Bread and 'Wine is owned by all to be a Type of the Sacrament;' I suppose he meant all of his Communion; for he must be very ignorant, not to know that the Protestants deny it; and yet, by his telling the Bishop, that he durst not meddle with that Point, because of this universal Consent, he seems to extend his all beyond the narrow Bounds of the Roman Church.

But we may well expect such a Spirit of Confidence in the Members of a Church, in whose Rule of Faith, the Council of Trent, we find this Assertion, (m) 'That the antient Fathers, when they gave the Eucharist to Infants, did not teach it 'was necessary to Salvation that they should receive it.' An Assirmation which we may in some fort excuse the Fathers of that Council for being so hardy as to advance, their Skill in Antiquity being so very small, that it is more than probable very sew of them knew the contrary; though a little more Modesty might have been expected, than so rashly to pronounce against the whole Current of the Fathers, and the universal Tradition of the Church for some Ages; nay, against the

(1) Animadversions by way of Answer to a Sermon preached by Dr. Kenn, &c. p. 4, Lond. 1687, 4to.

⁽m) Seff. 21, c. 4. Eos nulla salutis necessitate id secisse sine controversia credendum est.

the Decree of Pope Innocent I. who, as (n) Saint Augustine assures us, taught, 'That little Chil'dren cannot have eternal Life, without Baptism
'and the Participation of the Body and Blood of
'Christ;' with which Place when Mr. Campion
was pressed, he, after the Example of this Council, as (o) positively answered, there is no such Decree, though the very Work of Saint Augustine was brought, and this Passage shewed him.

With the very same Sincerity doth (p) Bellarmine affirm, 'That the whole Church and all the Greek and Latin Fathers teach, that when Christ faid, Upon this Rock will I build my Church, he thereby meant Peter; and (q) Alexandre Natalis, 'That the Fathers, with a Nemine contra-' dicente, interpret the Rock to be that Apostle;' there needs but little Reading to confute this, notwithstanding all the Assurance it is backed with; for not only particular Fathers tell us, that when our Lord said upon that Rock, he meant, upon the Faith of the Confession Peter had then made: infomuch that Saint (r) Ambrose is positive it is not of the Flesh, but of the Faith of Peter, that this is said; but that main Stream of Antiquity runs this Way to establish that Exposition which

⁽n) Lib. 2. ad Bonif. cont. duas Epist. Pelag. cap: 4. Beatæ memoriæ Innocentius Papa fine Baptismo Christi, & fine participatione corporis & sanguinis Christi, vitam non habere parvulos dicit.

⁽⁰⁾ Conference with Campion in the Tower, the second Day, p. 41.

⁽p) De Romano Pontifice, lib. 1, c. 10.

⁽q) Dissert. 4. part. 1, p. 274. (r) Non enim de carne Petri, sed de side dictum est, Lib. de Sacrament. Incarnationis.

(s) St. Austin so plainly gives, 'That the Church was established upon that Faith which Peter had then confessed, when he said, Thou art

. Christ the Son of the living God.'

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Nay, so far are the antient Writers from being unanimous in this Point, that there are three several Opinions among them; some, and but very sew, affirming, it was Peter's Person, in the same Sense as all the (t) Apostles are called the Foundation of the Church; others, that it was himself, Christ designed by the Word Rock; and the third, that which I have mentioned, that it was the Faith then confessed by St. Peter, which hath near threescore Fathers and Councils to authorize it, where the first hath hardly six; judge now on which Side the Nemine contradicente lies.

By this time I think it pretty evident, that these Gentlemen are too much a-kin to those who are (u) descrous to be Teachers of the Law, but understand not (or at least mind not) what they say, nor whereof they affirm; which makes the Advice of one of themselves in another Case very seasonable, (x) who tells us, 'That this husting Humour is Caution enough to any reasonable Man to take care:' For, is it be our Duty to take nothing in Religion on Trust, it is certainly of very great Concern, that we be suspicious in trusting those whose Insincerity is so very great, that they are not ashamed to publish the most palpable Untruths; What is to be expected then from their Discourses with ignorant and unwary Men, especially

⁽s) Super hanc fidem super hoc quod dictum est, Tu es Christus. In Epist. primam Johannis track decim.

⁽t) Ephes. il. 20. (u) 1 Tim. 1.7.

⁽x) Good Advice to the Pulpits, p. 50, Lond. 1687, 4to.

cially in private, where they are in no fuch Danger of being exposed? dr nogs bedilded asset had then confelled, when, he fold,

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rd Opinions among them; I dans, and but said di ni nol Of their Slanders. miamile , well Santo as all the (a) Apofiles are called the Pour

W HEN the Prophet Jeremiah was, in the Name of the Lord, endeavouring to reform the Corruptions of the Jewish Church, he complains that his Enemies said one to another, (y) Come let us devise Devices against bim, and let us (mite bim with the Tongue; (z) Report, fay they, and we will report it; which made him give that Caution and Advice to those who obeyed the Voice of the Lord by him. (a) Take ye beed every one of his Neighbour, and trust ye not in any Brother: For every Brother will utterly supplant. and every Neighbour will walk with Slanders; whose Case being so very like that of the reformed Churches, both in the Work he undertook, Reformation, and in the Opposition which was made to him by Calumnies and Slanders, his Advice is as feasonable to us, as to the reforming Yews; we having to deal with a politic Sort of Men, who, notwithstanding the wife (b) Solomon hath pronounced, that be that uttereth Slanders is a Fool, establish it as a Maxim, which they are very diligent Observers of, That it is no mortal Sin to calum-

end officier to the Polpits.

(b) Prov. x. 18.

⁽y) Jer. xviii. 18. (2) Chap. xx. 10. (a) Chap. ix. 4.

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lumniate falsly to preserve ones Honour; like the Heretics (c) St. Augustine speaks of, who, not being able to defend their Cause, set themselves

to revile their Adversaries, spreading the most false Reports, that, seeing they cannot evade

the Force, or obscure the Evidence of the

Truth contained in the Holy Scriptures, they

' may render those who preach it odious, by re-'porting all the Evil of them they can invent.'

. I know this is a fevere Charge, and will be looked upon, even by many fober and impartial Men, as uncharitable; but if they can either prove, that the Passages I relate are false, or the Authors I cite, who maintain it lawful, are forged and corrupted, I am willing to lie under that Imputation: But, on the other Side, if they prove to be truly cited, I must desire of the Reader, that their Character of religious Men, and their formal Pretences to Sincerity, may be looked upon, as indeed they are, but a fair Covering and Cloak for their Defigns; and I challenge the whole Body of them, to prove one particular Instance or Citation false; wherein I do not, as Mr. Pulton in his Remarks, charge those Slanders on them, which are only the Additions which a Story gets by running from Hand to Hand; for I know it is possible a Man may relate Things that are false, without being guilty of the Slander, by being deceived in the Account which was given him of

⁽c) Ep. 137. Qui non habendo quod in causa suæ divisionis desendant, non nisi hominum crimina colligere affectant; & ea vice plura falsissime jactant, & quia ipsam divinæ Scripturæ veritatem criminari & obscurare non possunt, homines per quos prædicatur adducunt in odium, de quibus & singere quicquid in mentem veniat possunt.

those Matters; but when Men make it their Bufiness to desame, and affert the Lawfulness of doing it by false Reports, I think it is no Piece of Injustice or Want of Charity to call them Slanderers.

I am not infenfible, that the generality of Men' are apt to reason with themselves, that surely religious Men cannot be of fuch feared Consciences, as to damn themselves by such malicious Backbiting; but, in this Case, such a Reflection is ungrounded, for their great Casuists defend it to be lawful; and are so far from being apprehensive of Damnation, that they justify its Practice, as Father (d) Dicastillo informs us; I have main-' tained, faith he, and do still maintain, that Ca-' lumny, when it is used against a Calumniator, ' though grounded on absolute Falsities, is not for that any mortal Sin either against Justice or ' Charity: And to prove it I have brought a Cloud of our Fathers to witness it, and whole Univer-' fities confisting of them, all whom I have con-' fulted, and among others the reverend Father ' John Gans, Confessor to the Emperor; the re-' verend Father Daniel Bastele, Confessor to the ' Arch-duke Leopold; Father Henry, sometimes ' Preceptor to those two Princes; all the public ' and ordinary Professors of the University of Vienna, all the Professors of the University of Grats, all the Professors of the University of Prague, of all whom I have at hand the Approbations of my Opinion written and figned with their own Hands: Besides that, I have on my

⁽d) De Just. lib. 2, tr. 2, disp. 12, n. 404. See this Passage in the Provincial Letters, p. 362, Edit. Lond. 1657, 8vo.

nry Side Father Pennaloffa, a Jesuit, and Confessor to the King of Spain; Father Pillecorolli,

a Jefuit, and many others.

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And when this was objected to the Jesuits, by the Author of the Provincial Letters, in his fifteenth Letter, (e) the Answerers of that Letter, where they undertake to defend themselves, instead of condemning, add more Authority to Father Dicastillo's Position, by citing several Authors, besides those mentioned before, in defence of it. Neither do they deny the Doctrine of (f) Caramuel, who afferts, 'That it is a probable Opinion, ' that it is not any mortal Sin to calumniate falfly to preserve ones Honour; for it is maintained

by above twenty grave Doctors; so that, if this

Doctrine be not probable, there is hardly any

' fuch in all the Body of Divinity.'

And the same is afferted by the Theses of the Jesuits at (g) Lovain, Ann. 1645, in case of calumniating and imposing false Crimes to ruin their Credit who speak ill of us.

Besides these Universities and Divines, who teach the Lawfulness of Calumnies and false Reports, we find it among other Rules of the Jesuits; 'That they should be fure to put this

- Doctrine in Practice, even against those of their ' own Communion, the antient Orders of the
- ' Roman Church; for if such happen to be an
- ' Hindrance to their ambitious Defigns, by stand-
- 'ing in their Way, (b) the Rule is, let their Faults be diligently noted, and they represented

(f) Prov. Letters, p. 363. (g) Ibid. p. 361. (h) Instruct. secret. pro super. Societ. Jesu, p. 11, 12.

⁽e) Answer to the Provincial Letters, p. 342, Edit. Paris, 1059, 8vo.

'as dangerous to the public Peace; which, as is observed by (i) one, no Enemy to their Order, was a successful Means of their Enlargement, and succeeding Greatness, their instilling into the Minds of Princes, by false Insinuations, an evil Opinion of the other religious Orders.

(k) Among the same Instructions they are directed, 'That all those, who hinder and dissuade

- ' Men from giving Estates or Money to the So-' ciety shall be turned out, and, to prevent their
- doing Mischief after their Ejection (1), let their Faults be exposed, saith the eleventh Rule, e-
- ven such as, in discharging their Consciences,
- ' they have revealed to their Superiors: And let
- Strangers be possessed that they were guilty of
- 'those Crimes, which the People are wont to hate us for.' This made (m) Mariana, a fa-
- mous Member of that Society, affirm; 'That if
- ' the Apostle St. Paul himself should contradict the Jesuits, and not approve their Errors, they
- ' would be fure to represent him, as an extravagant
- 'and restless Disturber of and Enemy to Peace.'

The

(i) Discov. of the Society in relat. to their Politics, p. 4, Lond. 1658, 8vo.

(k) Instruct. secret. ut supra, p. 20.

(1) Ibid. p. 22. Dicantur malæ ejus inclinationes, vitia, defectus, quos de se in manisestatione conscientiæ aliquando superioribus aperuerat.—Externis insinuentur causæ dismissionis illæ ob quas vulgus nos odio habent, sic enim plausibilior erit dismissio quorumcunque.

(m) Bernardi Giraldi Patavini pro Repub. Venetorum Apologia, p. 129. He cites Mariana's Words in his Book de Regimine Societatis Jesu, c. 2. Si ipse Paulus Apostolus, Generali Jesuitarum & assentatoribus ejus contradiceret, neque errores illorum probaret, suturum esset ut pro extravagante, inquieto, & turbatore pacis haberetur.

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The Observation of which Spirit and Doctrine made (n) one, who had been many Years a Priest, declare, 'They do not account it evil (as I verily think) to calumniate the Protestants by any Device whatsoever, that may carry any Probability with it, nor make any Conscience to tell and publish any Untruths, which they think, being believed, may advance and promote such Points and Matters, as they take upon them to defend for the Honour of the Church of Rome, and Dignity of their Priesthood; which he as-

' firmed upon Oath the 25th of June, 1602.

This is observed to be their Way of treating their Adversaries, by the ingenious and loyal (o) Father Peter Walsh, a Frier of the Franciscan Order, who acknowledges, 'That their Catholic 'Writers are generally hurried on to exorbitant 'Passions and barbarous Language (besides many downright Lies and meer Calumnies often) as gainst all those that leave their Church.' Neither is the Treatment they afford those, who, continuing Members of their Church, oppose any of their Designs, more Christian and sincere; 'An 'Example whereof we have in a (p) French Bi-

(n) Anthony Tirrell in his Exam. before Commissioners, June 25, 1602. See it at the End of Dr. Harsenet's Declaration of the Popish Impostures, Lond. 1603, 4to.

fhop,

(0) Four Letters on several Subjects, p. 69, 1686.

⁽p) Hospin. Histor. Jesuit. p. 249. — Pontum Tyardæum Episcopum Cabillonensem, eruditionis ac pietatis singularis, virum, cum Jesuitæ in suam factionem & conspirationem contra Regem Henricum tertium pretrahere non possent,—populi suriosum odium & invidiam in caput ejus modis omnibus concitare studuerunt. Est Collegium Divioni Jesuitarum, quod Episcopi hujus non exiguis beneficiis adauctum suit. Erat enim bonæ partis sundi illius Clientelaris Patronus;—quamo-

' shop, who had been a great Benefactor to the ' Jesuits, insomuch that, in their Poems and Panegyrics, they had magnified and extolled him for an excellently learned, and very pious Prelate; but, when he refused to join with them ' in their Conspiracy against King Henry III. they · fet themselves to desame him; both in their or-' dinary Discourses, their Books and Sermons, af-' firming, they had discovered four and forty heretical Tenets in three fingle Leaves of his Works; which drew fuch a Vindication from ' the Bishop as will be a Blot to their whole Order, while the Remembrance thereof remains ' in the Minds of Men.' And indeed it cannot be supposed they will let slip any Occasion of discrediting their Enemies, when, as you have feen before, they believe they may do it without hazarding their Salvation; and that, by the Credit they have in the World, they may calumniate

the Justice of Men.

(q) 'When Monsieur Puys, Pastor of St. Ni
'ceer, at Lyons, translated into French a Book,

'concerning the Duties of Christians towards their

'Parishes,

without any great Fear of being accountable to

brem libello, etiam Græcis, Latinis & Gallicis versibus, atque oratione soluta scripto & ipsi dicato cum amplissimo laudum ejus prædicatione, habuerunt gratiam, & sidem dederunt. Sed quod in conspirationem Jesuitarum, & parricidium Regis consentire nollet, quidam Carolus inter Jesuitas Collegii istius afcriptus linguam suam & Calamum superiorum instinctu vehementer contra illum acuit.—Contra hunc Præsulem, ob dictam causam non solum in familiaribus colloquiis, sed etiam publicis in concionibus atque editis quoque libellis debacchatus est: ac inter alia jactitavit.—Se quadraginta quatuor hæreses in tribus soliolis Homiliarum ejus in orationem Dominicam exprompsisse, & c. Vid. locum.

(9) Provincial Letters, p. 368, to 371.

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· Parishes, against those by whom they are diverted from them, the Jesuits, esteeming themselves to be reflected on, though no mention was ' made of the Society, one of that Order, Father Alby, wrote against the Translator, affirming, That he was become fcandalous, lay under the Suspicion of Impiety, of being an ' Heretic and excommunicated, and deserved to be cast into the Fire: But all these Imputations were only the pure Offspring of their own Inventions; for fome Time after, in the Presence ' of (r) feveral Divines and Persons of Quality, ' who all figned the Declaration made by both the Fathers, viz. Sep. 25, 1650, when Mr. ' Puys declared to the Jesuit, that, in what he ' had written, he designed no Reslection upon ' that Society, for which he had a very great Efteem; Father Alby immediately replied, Sir, the Belief I was in, that your Quarrel was against the Society, of which I have the Honour ' to be a Member, obliged me to take Pen in ' Hand to answer it, and I thought the Manner of my Proceeding lawful and justifiable: But, coming to a better Understanding of your Inten-' tion, I do now declare, That there is not any 'Thing that might hinder me from esteeming you a Man of a very illuminated Judgment, ad Kalan show and

⁽r) Mr. De Ville, Vicar General to the Cardinal of Lyons. M. Scarron, Canon and Pastor of St. Paul's. M. Margat. Mess. Borrand, Sevé, Aubert and Darvie, Canons of St. Nicier. M. du Gué, President of the Treasurers of France. M. Grossier, Provost of the Merchants. M. de Flechere, President and Lieutenant General. Messieurs de Boissat, de St. Romain, and de Bartoly, Gent. M. Bourgeois, the King's Advocate in the Treasurers Court of France. M. de Cotton, Father and San, and Mr. Boniel.

' of found Learning and orthodox, as to Man'ners unblamable, and, in a Word, a worthy
'Pastor of your Church: So that, by the Je'fuit's own Confession, he had no ground for
'his Calumnies, but thought it a lawful and
'justifiable Manner of proceeding, to represent
'a Person impious and an Heretic, in whom
'he knew no Fault, but that he supposed him
'no Friend to his Order.' This Passage is so
generally known, that the Jesuits (s), who pretended to answer the Provincial Letters durst not

deny it, and therefore pass it over.

In the same Manner is that pious and venerable Prelate, the late Bishop of Pamiers, treated by them, whose Life was an exact Copy of the primitive Holiness and Simplicity; yet the (t) Jesuits affirm, he was damned, for he had excommunicated three of their Order, and put them all under an Interdict of hearing Confessions in his Diocese.

Whatsoever Crimes they can imagine will render the *Protestants* odious to the People, they with all imaginable Diligence pronounce them guilty of; 'In which they act, as (u) Sir Edwin Sandys observes, like a supernatural Artist, 'who, in the Sublimity of his refined and resining Wit, disdains to bring only mere Art to his Work, unless he make also in some fort the very Matter itself; so these Men, in 'blacking the Lives and Actions of the Residence, have partly devised Matter of so no-

(s) In their Answer to the fifth Letter.

⁽t) Burnet's History of the Rights of Princes, p. 399, Lond. 1682, 8vo.

⁽u) Europ. Spec. p. 101.

torious Untruth, that, in the better fort of their

' own Writers, it happens to he checked, partly

fuborned other Postmen to compose their Legends, that afterwards they might cite them

' in Proof to the World as approved Authors and

' Histories.'

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Because they supposed it would be a Means to render the reverend Dr. Du Moulin contemptible to the World, they reported, as (x) he tells us himself, 'That he was a Frier's Son, though the whole City of Orleans knew the contrary, where his Father was born, and of very good Note.

And I know a Minister, who travelling in some Popish Countries, and having been a Means to recal a Person to our Church, who was near seduced, by the continual Importunities of some English Priests, had a Report raised of him, 'That he was a Drunkard, and continually spent his Time in an Ale-house, or a Tavern;' which Report, the very Priest that raised it, was afterwards ashamed of, when it was proved to his Face, that the Gentleman had not been within the Doors of a public House, except the first Night he came to that Town, during the Stay of some Months, which he made there.

With the very same Disingenuity we find the Author of (y) Advice to the Confutor of Bellarmine, infinuating, that the Writer of the Reflections on the Notes of the Church, imployed his Pen to consute them over a Pot of Ale;

K 2 which

(x) Novelty of Popery, p. 627.

⁽y) Advice to the Confuter of Bellarmine, p. 1. Lond. 1687, 4to.

which unhandsome Passage he hath neither been pleased to explain, though (z) his Answerer desired to know, 'Why he commenced his 'Advice with such a Suggestion? nor to defend the Truth of a Charge which such a Passage

necessarily implies.

But they are not content to invent Crimes, and charge Men with Actions they never owned, or were guilty of, but pretend likewife to dive into Men's Thoughts, which (a) Surius was so expert at, that he sticks not to affirm, 'That' the Protestant Divines do generally write a- gainst their Consciences, and maintain Positions, which they know are false.' And Mr. (b) Camden's Adversary was so well acquainted with that learned Person's Interior, (to use a Monkish Word) that he tells the World, 'Mr. Camden distembled his Religion;' a Calumny those who are inclined to credit may see clearly resuted in the Place cited in the Note.

The eminent Patriarch of the Greek Church, whom with Dr. Smith I shall not be ashamed to esteem a holy Martyr, '(c) Cyrillus Lucaris, 'could no sooner begin to print some of the 'antient Fathers, and other Discourses against 'the

(z) Defence of the Confuter of Bellarmine, 2d Note of the

Chapter, p. 1, Lond. 1678, 4to.

(b) Bishop Usher's Life and Letters, p. 63, 65, Lond.

1686, fol.

⁽a) Laurentii Surii Comment. brevis, p. 259. Col. 1574, 8vo. Quod quidem nos de sectarum authoribus dictum præcipue volumus, quos plerosque perspicuum est contra suam mentem & conscientiam longe aliter & scribere & docere quam rem ipsam se habere non sint nescii.

⁽c) Mr. Thomas Davis, his Letter to Archbishop Usher, Ibid. 381.

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the Popilo Errors, but the Emissaries of Rome ' persuaded the Bassa, who then presided at Constantinople, that the Patriarch, under pretence of printing, would coin and stamp false 'Money; and, (d) finding some Passages in one of his Books against the Mahometan Religion, they accused him to the Vizir for writing ' against the Alcoran, (were not these Fathers rare Christians?) and that he designed to fir up the Greeks to mutiny, which had near cost that holy Man his Life; but upon the English Embassador, Sir Thomas Rowe, his expostulating the Matter with the Vizir, the malicious and false Informations of the Misfionaries appeared fo horrid and abominable, that the Grand Vizir promised to restore all the Goods which had been seized upon the first Accusation, and cast the Jesuits into Prifon, where they had all been strangled, if the ' Intercession of the English Embassador had not revailed for their Lives; but they were ba-' nished the Grand Signior's Dominions, and ' their (e) House and Library given to the Patriarch.

In the same Manner, because Father Paul, the samous Writer of the History of the Trent Council, opposed himself to the ambitious Pretences of the Pope; who claimed a temporal Authority over all Princes, (f) the Court of Rome carried the

(e) Mr. Davis's Letter, ut supr.

⁽d) Smith's Account of the Greek Church, p. 266, 267, 268, Lond. 1680, 8vo. See also his Miscellanea, p. 95, to 103, Lond. 1686, 8vo.

⁽f) Fowle's History of Remiss Treasons, p. 470, Lind. 1681, fol.

the greatest Bitterness against him, daily writing Libels and Invectives stuffed up with Lies and Forgeries; in the inventing of which there was none more concerned than Maffeio Barbarian, at that Time Nuncio in France, and afterwards Pope, by the Name of Urban VIII. nay, fo far are they guided by this Principle, that, rather than be wanting in the Observation of it, they care not how unlikely their Slanders are, or else they could never have been guilty of fo great an Indifcretion against the famous Cafaubon, (g) as, after they had afperfed his Father and his whole Family, to declare him, as they did, a Man of no Judgment; afirming, that he could not write Latin, or scarce understand it; when he was known, to all the learned Men of Europe, to be one of the greatest Scholars of that Age.

But the Jesuit (b) Parsons was resolved not to trouble himself with particular Persons, nothing less than the whole Body of Protestants in England would serve his Turn; which made him several times assure Mr Sheldon, 'That he would undertake to make the Devil speak in any Bishop, Archbishop, or Arch-heretic in England: And therefore the Priests, concerned in the exorcising of (i) Sarah Williams and her sister (of whom we shall give a larger Account, when we come to treat of their Miracles) were accustomed frequently to affirm, 'That all the

(g) Fowle's Hiftory of Romish Treasons, p. 514.

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⁽b) Sheldon's Survey of the Miracles of the Church of Rome, p. 25, Lond. 1616, 4to.

⁽i) See their Examinations in Dr. Samuel Harfenet's Declaration of Popish Impostures, in casting out of Devils.

' Protestants in England were possessed, and they should have their Hands full with those

' possessed Creatures, when the Nation became

" Catholics."

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These one would think were pretty handsome Calumnies, and fit for fuch Men to invent and publish; but their late poetical Convert hath taught the succeeding Gentlemen, who shall be employed in this Office, a Way to affirm the Truth of their Reports, notwithstanding all imaginable Evidence of their Falfity, for, he not content to affirm, 'That, (k) among all the Volumes of Divinity written by Protestants, ' there was not one original Treatife, which han-' dled distinctly and by itself, that Christian Vir-' tue of Humility;' he renews (1) the same Challenge near a Year after, though the (m) Author had told him, there was one written by Mr. William Allen; and set down the Place where, and Year in which it passed the Press. In the first indeed he limited his Affertion to such as he had feen and heard of; wherein as he shewed some Modesty, so he was likely to do no great Harm, it being fufficiently known, that, in Matters of Divinity, his Acquaintance goes but a very little way, though in his own Profession he is deservedly esteemed a Master; but to enlarge his Affertion, and after fuch an Information, to make that general, which he was too modest to do before, shews him an excellent Proselyte:

⁽k) Defence of the Papers written by the late King, p. 126, Lond. 1686, 4to.

⁽¹⁾ Hinde and Panther, in the Pref. Lond. 1687, 4to. (m) Of the Difference between the Protestant and the Socinian Methods, p. 62, Lond. 1686, 4to.

And in this Point he seems able to instruct even

his ghostly Fathers.

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Another Artifice, by which they endeavour to create an Aversion in the People's Minds for the Ministers of our Church, is by slying at them altogether, and reproaching them as covetous and greedy of Wealth; this they are instructed to do by Signior (n) Bellarini, who, giving Advice to Father Young, concerning the best Way of managing the Popish Interest in England, among other the Directions lays down this, 'That the Bishops and Ministers of the Church of England be represented as worldly and careless;' which Letter was found in Father Young's Study after his Death, and translated out of Italian into English.

And this Slander they have so far improved, that, as a Person of (o) Honour observes, 'They

A have entered into a Conspiracy, in undervaluing

whatsoever is written by any Clergyman, how

' learned or virtuous soever, in Desence of the Church of England; as if he spoke only for

his own Interest; so that they, who would

' undermine it by all the foul and dishonest Arts

simaginable, have the Advantage to be confi-

dered as Persons engaged in that Account,

merely and purely by the Impulsion of their

Consciences, and for the Discovery of such

Errors as are dangerous to the Souls of Men;

' whilst they, who are most obliged, and are best able to refute those malicious Pretences,

and

(40) Lord Glarendon against Cressy, p. 13, 14.

⁽n) Stillin. Unreason. of Separat. Pref. p. 22, Lond. 1681, 4to.

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and to detect the Fraud and Ignorance of those seditious Undertakers, are looked upon

' Men not to be believed, at least partial, and that all they fay is faid on their own Behalf:

This is a fad Truth, and a new Engine to make a Battery, at which Atheism may enter,

without Opposition, with all its Instruments and

In Profecution of which Defign it is usual with them to recount the Riches of the Clergy, while they maliciously and falsly infinuate, that the Revenues Ecclefiaftical in England are far greater than in Popish Countries; but, if we come to examine the Wealth of Ecclefiastical Persons, in the Popish Times in this Nation, we shall find, that it exceeded by many Degrees that poor Pittance which reformed Divines enjoy, among whom it is known, that Multitudes have hardly fufficient to buy themfelves Bread; (p) several hundreds of our Livings not amounting to ten Pounds a Year a Piece, and feveral not to five; when the fole Revenues of the Monasteries and Hospitals, besides the two Universities and several Monasteries not valued, in King Henry the VIII's Time, amounted to (q) 186,512 l. odd Money; besides the Bishoprics and Parishes, which being joined to the former Sum, the Clergy of the Church of Rome were possessed of the yearly Sum of above 320, 180 1. even in those Times, : What would they have yielded then at this Day?

If

⁽p) Speed, in his Chronicle, reckons, that in the beginning of King James's Time, there were 4543 Livings under ten Pounds, Edit. Lond. 1623, at the End of the Reign of King Henry VIII. 2 1101. Ibid. p. 1100.

If then the Gentlemen of the Church of Rome judge the Provisions for the reformed Clergy too great, the Possessions they enjoyed will certainly appear subject, and consequently themselves, to the fame Accufation, but upon much better Grounds: Especially when we consider, that never any Clergy in the Church of God hath been. or is maintained with less Charge than the established Clergy of the Church of England; which (r) ingenious Gentleman hath evidently To whose Arguments, if our Adversaproved. ries think fit to reply, they shall not want a Defender: And I am ready to prove, out of their own Authors, that the Revenues of the French Clergy amount to above 1,200,000 l. of our English Money yearly; that they possess seven Parts in twelve of the whole Revenue of the Kingdom; and that the Archbishopric of Toledo in Spain is as rich as some Kingdoms.

And now let the World judge to whom the Appellation of Hirelings belongs, which they are so ready to bestow on us: But, not content to cast their Reproaches upon the Body of the Clergy, the Oxford Writer hath attempted to bring the Charge of Worldliness home to a particular Bishop; but so unsuccessfully, that it is evident, he was forced to use his Invention to maintain it, which all his Assurance, though he hath a great Talent that Way, will not be able to do; for whereas he affirms, that the (s) excellent Hooper, who in Queen Mary's Days sealed

(1) Fifth Part of Church Government, p. 68.

⁽r) The Undeceiving of the People in the Point of Tithes, by Ph. Trelinie, Gent. Lond. 1651, 4to.

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the Protestant Religion with his Blood, held two Bishoprics at once, it is notoriously false: For he never held but the Bishopric of Worcester, (t) from which Gloucester was divided by King Henry VIII. and reunited to it by King Edward; so that all Hooper enjoyed was but one Bishopric, which had some Years been divided into two; and yet our Author pretends he held them in Commendam.

If this Means will not do the Work, and our Divines still keep up their Esteem in the Minds of the People, the next Design is to expose them as guilty of fome immoral Crime; to this End they have, in this City, 'dressed some of ' their own Party in the Habit of a Minister, who, according to Instructions, resorted to ' Houses of ill Repute, while others of the Gang, ' planted there on purpose, pointing at the sup-' posed Minister, have been heard to say aloud, There goes Dr. or Mr. such an one, that the ' People might suppose the most eminent of their 'Ministers Frequenters of such Places; and I ' can name fome Divines, whom they have, by ' this Artifice endeavoured to defame.

If they have a Defign that any one of our Ministers should be esteemed an idle and lazy Man, and negligent in his Office, they watch till he is gone abroad, then repairing to some fick Perfon of their Acquaintance; they defire them to fend for him while they are in the House, and when the Messenger returns, with an Account

that

⁽t) See Appendix to Dr. Burnet's History of the Reformation, Vol. 2, p. 396. Reflect. on the Hill. Part of Church Government, Part 5, p. 35, Oxford, 1687, 4to.

that he is not within, they take Occasion to tell the sick Persons, that our Ministers are never to be found, but always gadding abroad, without minding the Concerns of their People; but, for their Parts, they are always ready to persorm the Duty of their Office to all Sorts that send for them; and thus they served an eminent Divine very lately.

But that Gentleman had a pretty good Stock of Confidence, who, urging a Woman to become his Profelyte, told her, 'That our Divines were

'Men of no Learning, and could not preach but by the Helps they received from hearing and

reading the Sermons of the Romish Priests: And yet this was very gravely urged by one of them not many Months since. I do not relate this Passage that I think there is any Danger of its being, believed even by the meanest Understanding to our Prejudice; but to let the World see, that there is no Slander, how improbable or senseless soever, which these Men are ashamed of.

The Truth is, they find Calumny their best Weapon, and therefore are resolved to use it at all Adventures; hence it is we find, among the rest of the Directions given by the Jesuit (u) Contzen, in his Advice for bringing Popery into a Country, 'That those who preach against a To-

- ' leration, suspecting the Design of the Papists
- in it, be traduced as Men that preach very
- ' unseasonable Doctrine, that are proud, conceit-
- 'ed, and Enemies to Peace and Union.' And

⁽u) Adami Contzen Politicorum Libri decem, p. 96, he advises to follow the Example of those, Qui cum recusarent, quasi superbi contumaces in obedientes magistratui accusabantur, &c.

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for the better managing the Popish Interest in England, Signior (x) Ballarini directs Father Young, 'To make it appear under-hand, that 'the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of the 'Church of England comes near to them; 'that our Common-prayer is but little different from their Mass; and that the ablest and wisest 'Men amongst us are so moderate, that they would willingly go over to them, or meet 'them half-way; for thereby the more stayed 'Men will become more odious, and others will run out of all Religion for fear of Po'pery.'

And we find even at this Time they are obferving this Instruction, to which End (y) one of their Number hath been at the Pains to shew. 'That the Church of England and the Church

of Rome are agreed; and the whole Controversy lies between the Church of Rome and dissenting Protestants; but, I suppose, since the Difference between the two Churches hath been so clearly related in the (2) Answer to that Pamphlet, they will, for the Time to come, keep closer to the Advice of doing their Businessunder-hand; for the Discourse will hardly convince any body that we are agreed with them.

But it is very pleasant to behold these Gentlemen labouring with all their Might to asperse the Reformers, when, if those Passages they lay to their

⁽x) Young's Hift. of Plots, p. 89, Lond. 1684, 8vo. Dr. Stilling. Unreasonableness of Separation, p. 21 of the Presace.

⁽y) The Agreement between the Church of England and the Church of Rome, Lond. 1687, 4to.

⁽z) The Difference between the Church of England and the Church of Rome, Lond, 1687, 4to.

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their Charge be Blots indeed, they are as prejudicial to the Gospel itself, and to the greatest of the Romish Saints, as, if we allowed them in their full Latitude, they can be to us. Thus the (a) Confiderer upon the Spirit of Luther spends much Time and Pains to prove, that Luther's Doctrine was not of God, because he relates several Arguments which the Devil used against the Mass, thereby attempting to drive him to Despair, because he had for many Years been a Romish Priest; upon which (b) Mr. Pulton puts this Question, Now I ask whether the Doctrine delivered by ' the Spirit of Untruth can be from the Holy ' Ghost?' Now though we tell these Gentlemen, that Luther spoke this by way of Parable, yet, feeing that they are deaf on that Ear, let it be for once allowed, that it was a real Conference, and all they can draw from it is, either that knotty Question of Mr. Pulton, ' Whether the ' Doctrine delivered by the Spirit of Untruth ' can be from the Holy Ghost?' or that Luther could not be an holy Man, because the Devil was fo often with him, which is the great Argument of the Oxford Considerer; and of Mr. Pulton himself, in the 10th Page of his Remarks.

As for the Question, I find in the Gospel, the Devils themselves bearing Testimony to our Saviour, (c) That he was Christ the Son of the living God, acknowledging him to be the (d) Holy One of God; and an whole (e) Legion of these unclean Spirits crying out, What have we to do with

thee,

⁽a) Considerations on the Spirit of Martin Luther, Sect. 32.

⁽b) Pulton's Remarks, p. 1.

⁽c) Luke iv. 41. (d) Mark i. 23, 24. (e) Luke viii. 28, 29, 30.

thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? And when to St. Paul the Spirit of Divination bore the same Witness, (f) That he was the Servant of the Most High God, and shewed the Way of Salvation: Nay, I find also that God made use of the evil Spirit's Testimony for the Conversion of many, when the (g) Sons of a Jew undertook to call upon a Man who was possessed, in the Name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus, whom Paul preacheth; the Evil Spirit answered, Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are ye? And the Man, in whom the Evil Spirit was, leaped on them, and overcame them, --- And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephefus, and Fear fell on them all, and the Name of the Lord Jesus was magnified; of which the following Verses give particular Instances.

Now the same Answer, which Mr. Pulton will make to an Heathen, putting the same Question in this Case, will give full Satisfaction to that which he puts to us; for if it be a good Evidence to prove the Doctrine of Luther salse, because the Devil owned the Truth of it, the Conclusion will hold as firm against the Deity of Christ, and Truth of the Gospel, which the Devil was forced to consess. And if the second Inference concludes against Luther, what shall we think of their admired (h) 'St. Anthony, to whom the Devil frequently appeared, and, using an articulate Voice, spake to him, acknowledging that

⁽f) Acts xvi. 16, 17. (g) Acts xix. 13, to 20. (h) In Vita Antonii, inter Athan Opera, Vol. 2. Edit. Colon. 1686. Ανθρωπίνη χρωμεν Φ Φανη έλεγε πολλές μεν ή πάτησα, κ) πλείς ες κατεδαλλου νων δε έπίτοι κ) τοις, σοις πόνοις προσβαλων ήθενησα.

he had often attempted to corrupt him, but was not able; nay, that he was seldem without the Company of the Devil, either beating him or discoursing with him, the Author of that Life informs us in a Multitude of Instances; and yet, for all this, the Papists will maintain his Saintship, so that the Devil's Molestation is no Argument against Luther or his Doctrine; and there is hardly any of their noted Saints, whom the Writers of their Lives do not affect to represent to us as Persons from whom the Devil was seldom or never absent.

Nor is it any wonder these Gentlemen should be fo bufy in fcandalizing our Divines, though the Reflection falls as severely upon their own canonized Saints, when they have fo little Confideration as to charge us with those Things, which others of their own, writing at the same Time and on the fame Subject, do acquit us of: An Instance of which we have in their frequent Cries, ' That ' the (i) Exclusion Bill was managed in the House of Commons by the Sons of the Church of " England;" and, that the (k) Rebellion was to be laid to their Charge; (1) that, if we look to the excluding Party, they were five to one ' Church of England-men; so that our Church must take the Shame of all those Things to her-' felf; these loud Clamours have made more ' Noise in the World, than all their new Tests and

(k) Mr. Pain's Answer to the Letter to a Dissenter, p. 2, 1687, 4to.

⁽i) Answer to a Letter to a Dissenter, p. 4, printed for H. Hill, 1687, 4to.

⁽¹⁾ Reply to the Reasons of the Oxford Clergy against addressing, p. 6, 7, 1687, 4to.

and Instances of the Church of England's Loy-' alty,' which I shall examine in another Place : But, to the Comfort of our Church, her Adverfaries agree not together, fo that she needs no Vindication but what she is able to bring from her greatest Enemies; therefore one (m) tells the Diffenters, 'That they were the Actors not only in 48, but in the Business of the Rye and the West too; and one, who pleads the very fame Caufe, affures us, (n) That the Differers appeared so ri-' gorous in chusing their Representatives, that ' they carried it for three Parliaments successively. ' against the Church of England; and it was in ' those three Parliaments, that the Exclusion Bill ' was promoted and stickled for;' which is a clear Demonstration that the Exclusioners were not five to one of the Church of England.

But as these Gentlemen contradict themselves in this Point, so, by the same Assertion, they overthrow their great Work of persuading the Dissectors, that the Church of England never was, nor never will be willing to ease their Consciences by a Comprehension; when, by affirming the Exclusion Parliaments to have been composed of Church of England-men, they give themselves the Lye, seeing all the World knows it was in those Parliaments, that the Bill of Comprehension was promoted.

As they will coin immoral Actions for us, so likewise, with the same Sincerity, they make a great Complaint of our Falsifications, when he M

⁽m) Letter in Answer to two main Questions, p. 7, 14, by T. G. Lond. 1687, 4to.

⁽n) Discourse for taking off the Test, - p. 35, Lond. 1687, 4to.

that examines into the Matter will find no such Thing; thus the Vindicator of Monsieur de Meaux sills a Part of a Page, with a List of his Adversaries Falsifications and Calumnies, &c. of which you may judge by this Instance: (o) That ingenious Gentleman tells us, 'That Mr.' de Meaux had affirmed, that the denying of Salvation to Insants dying unbaptized was a 'Truth, which never any one before Calvin durst openly call in Question; this the (p) Vindicator calls a corrupting the Bishop's Words: Which are these (a) The Lutherans believe with the

are these, (q) 'The Lutherans believe with the 'Catholic Church the absolute Necessity of Bap'tism, and are assonished with her that such a

' Truth should be denied, which never any one

before Calvin durst openly call in question."

Now I appeal to all the World, whether it be not the same Thing, to affirm that Baptism is absolutely necessary to Salvation, and that those who die unbaptized are not saved? For, if it be absolutely necessary, then without it there can be no Salvation; and whoever afferts that, denies Salvation to those who have it not; let our Vindicator then defend himself from the Imputation of Calumny, which I lay to his Charge in this Particular, the calling that a Falsification and Corruption, which is the true Meaning of the Bishop's Words.

I shall end this Head with two Instances of their calumniating the poor *Protestants* of *France*, though I could give as many hundreds. (r) Du-

(p) Reply to the Defence, &c. p. 62.

(r) Policy of the Clergy of France, p. 57, to 59, Lond. 1681,

⁽e) Defence of the Expos. of the Doct. of the Ch. of Eng. p. 39.

⁽q(Expos. of the Doctrine of the Cath. Church, p. 20, Lond. 1685, 4to.

ring the Heat of the War, between France and ' Holland, the Reformed of Dauphine had kept a · Fast in all their Churches; and the Synod, that ' had ordered it, had enjoined all the Ministers that belonged to it, affifted by their Antients, ' to vifit Families, and put them in mind of what had been promised God on the Fast-day, which one of the Ministers (against whom the ' Friers of St. Anthony had long time watched for an Occasion) performing, those pretended Religious wrote to Mr. le Tellier, Secretary of State, That ' fomething was contriving against the King's Service; that the Hugonots had celebrated a ' Fast through all the Dauphinate; that there was ' a Plot couched under this Fast, and that Devotion was only the Pretext of it: That this Mi-' nifter had held fecret Affemblies at the Houses of the Principals of his Parish; that he had ' prayed for the Success of the Hollanders Arms, and that great Sums of Money were gathered by him and his Party to fend to the Prince of ' Orange; and with this fair Story they caused a f great deal of Trouble to the Gentleman, and fuborned Witnesses to maintain the Accusation; but he broke through all, and cleared his Inno-. cence to the Shame of his false Accusers.' And as they persecuted those poor People with Slanders in their own Country, fo they continue to profecute the same unworthy Methods against them in ours, where they are fled for Relief from the grievous Oppressions of their Enemies; for, knowing the greatest Part of their Subsistence must come from the Charity of their Protestant Brethren, they have endeavoured to hinder them of that, by spreading a Report that they are Papists: M 2

This as to London is known to many hundreds, and that they have done the same in Ireland, we are informed by an ingenious and worthy (s) Gentleman, who tells us, who they are that can prove

the Truth of this Affertion.

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Thus are we dealt with by the Romanists as the Primitive Christians were treated by the Heathens; but that which supported them doth likewise encourage us, seeing he whom we serve hath pronounced, (t) Blessed are ye, when Men shall revile you and persecute you, and say all manner of Evil against you falsly for my Sake: Though we can-not forbear to admonish our Adversaries of that divine Threatning, (u) Whoso privily slandereth his Neighbour, him will I destroy; which is spoken so particularly to them, that it is impossible for them to escape while they do such Things, though they may flatter themselves, that their Slanders are public, when the Denunciation is against those who flander privily: But if one of those Crimes be of fuch an heinous Nature, how much greater is the Guilt of both? which I wish I had no reafon to charge upon them. Nay, we have this to comfort ourselves with, that these (x) false Accufations are commonly the last Refuge, and therefore that Caufe which stays itself so much upon them cannot hold long.

I noted before, that these Gentlemen pretend to know what paffes in the most inmost Recesses of the Hearts of Men, and well they may, when

(t) Mat. v. 11. (u) Pfal. ci. 5.

⁽s) Hunting of the Romish Fox, p. 94, 95, Dublin, 1683,

⁽x) Answer to a Letter to a Dissenter, p. 5. printed for Henry Hills,

they are so ready to dive into the Secrets of the Divine Providence, and, from the fudden Death of Persons, to conclude what the Designs of God in fuch particular Dispensations are. In which Knowledge they pretend to be so versed, that it is one of the Notes whereby to know their Church, given us by themselves, the unhappy Death of the Church's Enemies: That this can be no Note. of the Church, I shall not concern myself to prove, but refer my Reader to the (y) Discourse on this Subject, where he will be abundantly fatisfied, that it cannot be a Note to know the Church by; and that it is more favourable to us than the Roman Church, if it were one: All I shall observe is, that if all the Stories they invent, and the Reports they spread of the unhappy End of their Adversaries were true, yet we know (z), That there is a just Man that perishes in his Righteousness, and there is a wicked Man that prolongeth his Life in his Wickedness; (a) That there are just Men to whom it happeneth according to the Work of the Wicked; and there are wicked Men to whom it happeneth according to the Work of the Righteous; so that (b) seeing all Things come alike to all, there can nothing be concluded against any Church, from the Judgments which fall on the Heads of particular Members of it. And our Saviour himself assures us, that such Judgments are often fent, where the Persons punished are not greater Sinners, than those who at the same Time are spared; which he illustrates

(z) Ecclef. vii. 15. (a) Ibid. viii. 14. (b) Ibid. ix. 2.

⁽y) Discourse of the Notes of the Church, p. 333, to 365, London, 1687, 4to.

by the Instances of those upon whom the Tower of (c) Siloam fell; and the unfortunate (d) Galileans, whose Blood Pilate mingled with their

Sacrifices.

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But let our Saviour observe what he will, there are a Sort of Men, whose Policies scorn to be founded upon his holy Maxims, and are therefore resolved to invent dismal Stories, where they cannot find true ones, to work upon the Spirits of the more unthinking Sort: And therefore, in the Time of the Siege of Paris, during the League in France, the Priests were grown to that Height of Immodesty, (not to give it a worse Name) as (e) to persuade the People there, who generally believed it, 'That the Thunder of the Pope's Ex-' communications had fo blasted the Heretics, that their Faces were grown black and ugly as Devils; their Eyes and Looks ghaftly, and their Breath noisome and pestilent.' (f) And in Spain the same Instruments of Rome had possessed the People; 'That, fince the English left the Roman Re-'ligion, they were transformed into strange horrid ' Shapes, with Heads and Tails like Beafts and Monfters; which was fo generally believed among them, that, when the Earl of Nottingham went Ambassador into Spain, Anno 1603, the Country People could hardly believe their Eyes, that the English were such comely and accomplished Gentlemen, whose Deformity they had before so often heard confidently afferted.

And

⁽c) Luke xiii. 4. (d) Ibid. xiii. 1, 2. (e) Europæ Spec. p. 135. (f) Wilson's History of Great Britain, p. 26, London, 1653, Folio.

And as they are always imployed in asperting the Living, fo they exert the same Diligence in forming some hideous Relation of the Manner of their Deaths; their implacable Malice following them, as it did their Father, (g) Paul Sarpi, the Venetian, to his Grave, 'publishing impudent and fabulous Stories concerning his Death; of his ' dying howling, of strange Apparitions of black Dogs, of terrible Noises heard in his Cell and * Chambers, and feveral fuch lying Forgeries, as ' those idle People used to invent upon Luther, " Calvin, and others who will not truckle to the ' Usurpations of a Roman Court. But the People of Venice, who knew him better, accounted ' him a Saint, hanging up their votive Tablets at his Sepulchre. ' Nay, they can go yet a Step farther, and ' those very Judgments, which God inflicts upon themselves, they have the Face to affirm were Strokes of Divine Vengeance on the Protestants; thus when there were some (b) hundreds of ' the Romisto Profession met to hear Father Drury, a noted Jesuit, preach, in the Black-Friers, Oct. ' 26, 1623, it pleased God, that the Chamber where they were fell down, and near an hundred Persons with the Preacher were killed outright, and many hurt; yet they had the Confi-' dence to affirm, that this was a Protestant As-' sembly, publishing (i) a Book relating great Judgments shewn on a Sort of Protestant Heretics, by the Fall of an House in Black-Friers,

(g) Fowlis's Hift. of Rom. Treasons, p. 470. (b) Wilson's Hift. of Great Britain, p. 241.

London,

⁽i) Mirror, or Looking-glass both for Saints and Sinners, p. 195, Lond. 1671, Fol.

London, in which they were assembled, to hear a Geneva Lecture; and Dr. (k) Gouge tells us, when and where this Relation was printed, in

' his Account of that fad Providence.'

I might particularize in abundance of such Passages; but these are enough to let the Reader see, that it was not without Cause I gave him Caution in the first Chapter to suspect them; for into what a Maze of Errors doth he run, who takes the Accounts given by those Men of the Lives and Deaths of their Adversaries upon their Authority, who give themselves such a Liberty to

devise Fables, and then report them?

This over politic and wife Sort of Men reach yet a Note higher; and, knowing of how great Consequence the Revolt of any eminent Divine is, Persons are become Catholics, (as they call them) in which they have as little respect to Truth, as in the former Instances. (1) But they find by their Experience, that News makes its Impression ' upon their first reporting, and that then, if it be good, it greatly raises up the Spirit and confirms ' the Mind, especially of the Vulgar, who easily believe all that their Betters tell them; that afterwards, when fuch Stories happened to be ' controlled, Men's Spirits being cold, are not fo ' sensible as before, and either little regard it, or impute it to common Error or Uncertainty of Things; yea, and that the good News comes to many Men's Ears, who never hear of the Check it hath; and at least it may serve their Turn for some present Exploit, as Merchants do by

(1) Europ. Spec. 114, 115.

^(*) Key for Catholics, p. 258, Lond. 1674, 4to.

by their News; who, finding some Difficulty in

* accomodating their Affairs, have in Use to forge Letters, or otherwise to raise Bruits, either of

fome prosperous Success in Princes Actions, or

of fome great Alteration in some kind of Mer-

chandize; which may ferve for that prefent In-

frant to expedite their Business.'

Whether the Missionaries take this Piece of Policy from them, or are only imitated by them, is not material; but that being secure of an Evasion, if their Report be found untrue, that they were mis-informed; and knowing well, that hundreds, who hear the Account they give, are never undeceived by wanting Opportunities to discover its Falsity, they are no modester in this Particular, than in the other Slanders is most certain.

(m) Thus, in the Year 1597, they spread a Report throughout Germany, Holland and Italy, that Beza had renounced his Religion before the Senate, and had exhorted the Magistrates to reconcile themselves to the Church of Rome; (n) and that, by his Example, many Citizens of Geneva had done the like; (o) whereupon he was absolved by the Bishop of that City, before his Death, by special Order from the Pope. This, we are assured by several (p) French Priests, was generally believed, till Beza wrote several French and Latin Letters, to convince the World of the N

(m) M. Spon's Hist. of the State of Geneva, p. 144, Lond. 1687, Folio.

⁽n) Jesuits Catech. p. 62. (o) Sands's Europ. Spec. p. 113. (p) Jesuits Catech. p. 62.

Forgery, and that he was yet alive, and that (q). he died not till fix Years after.

Of the very same Nature, was the Report of the Conversion of the (r) Reverend Peter Du Moulin; which, even while he was Minister of the Protestant Church in Paris, and writing against Rome, was publicly preached in the City in many Pulpits, and Benefices affigned to him; they afferted in their Sermons, that he was preparing to go to Rome; which was so generally believed, that the People flocked to a certain Church, and there waited, expecting to hear him make his Recantation. Upon which he observes, that fuch Tricks are apt to aftonish the People for a Season, and an Untruth that was believed for three Days had had fome Effect. 'And I am able to prove, that a Minister now in England, travel-Ing in Company with others of our Nation, of the Protestant Religion, and making a small · Journey alone, to a neighbour City to that they then refided in; the Priests came to several of his fellow Travellers, affuring them, that the ' faid Minister was become a Romanist; that he was publicly reconciled, and therefore furely they would not refuse to relinquish that Religion, which he, whose Profession obliged him to defend it, and who understood it best, durst not continue in. This Report was affirmed with so much Confidence, that, upon the Minister's Return, several Persons of the Roman Catholic Religion congratulated him for his happy Change; and one of the English was ready

⁽q) Hist. of Geneva, p. 144. (r) Novelty of Popery, Lib. vii. c. x. cont. 8. p. 627.

ready to follow his Example, if he had not in Time discovered the Cheat.

And it is no longer fince, than the Winter, 1685, that a Report went current through all the Countries in England, where there are many Romanists, that Dr. Burnet was at Rome become a Papist, and that great Preferments were bestowed upon him: This hath been affirmed to me by feveral for a certain Truth; when I made diligent Enquiry, those Gentlemen affirming, that they had it from very good Hands; and had seen some Letters from Foreign Parts which confirmed But more immodest was the Pretence of the Dean of Norwich's Conversion, about two ' Years fince; which feveral Priests affirmed to a ' Servant-maid, whom they knew to be a great ' Admirer of that Divine, urging her to follow ' the Example of fuch a learned Man, who was so deservedly esteemed by her; which they re-'iterated with fo much Confidence and Fre-' quency, that the Maid promised to turn like-' wise; but being convinced by an eminent Per-' fon, (who carried her to hear the Reverend Dean preach) that she was abused by a notorious Untruth, the was confirmed in her Aver-' fion to that Church, which is upheld by fuch ' unworthy Means: And I cannot but observe, the Providence of God in this Matter; that the Sermon, which the Maid was carried to hear, was levelled against the Popish Errors; whereby ' she was not only informed of the Abuse, but ' instructed too.'

But their greatest Traffic is in the pretended Conversion of dying Persons; thus they would make a Romanist of dying Beza, six Years before N 2

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his Death; and this Blot they have endeavoured to cast upon the Memory of that excellent Prelate Bishop King, Mr. (s) Musket, the Jesuit, publishing a Book of his Conversion to Rome upon his Death-bed, intitled, The Bishop of London's Legacy. This Relation we are affured did mightily (t) shock the People's Minds; but it is wholly false, his Son, Dr. Henry King, since Bishop of Chichester, preaching a Sermon for his Father's Vindication at St. Paul's Cross, Nov. 25, 1621, where he affures the World, that the Bishop before his Death received the Eucharist at the Hands of his Chaplain, Dr. Cluet, together with his Wife, his Children, his Family, Sir Henry Martin's Chancellor, Mr. Philip King, his Brother, &c. protesting to them, that his Soul had greatly longed to eat that last Supper, and to perform that last Christian Duty before he left them; and gave Thanks to God, that he had lived to finish that bleffed Work. And then, drawing near his End, he caused his Chaplain to read the Confession and Absolution in the Common Prayer. And the Perfon who was reported to reconcile him, Mr. (u) Thomas Preston, being examined before the Archbp. of Canterbury and other Commissioners, protested before God, as he should answer it at the dreadful Day of Judgment, that the Bishop of London did never confess himself to him, nor ever

(s) Gee's Foot out of the Snare, p. 76.

(t) Birkback's Protest. Evidence, Cent. xvi. p. 188, Lond.

⁽u) Ibid. p. 189. And Foot out of the Snare, p. 77. See a Relation of this Forgery, in the Hist. of the Church of Great Britain, from the Birth of our Saviour, p. 134, 188, Lond. 1674, 4to.

received facramental Absolution at his Hands, nor was ever by him reconciled to the Church of Rome; neither did renounce before him the Religion established in the Church of England; yea, he added farther, 'That, to his Knowledge, he was never in Company with the Bishop, never received any Letter from him, never wrote to him, ' nor did he ever fee him in any Place whatfoever; 'nor could have known him from another Man.' The same also did (x) Father Palmer, the Jesuit, (whom they affirmed to be one of those by whom he was reconciled) affirm, that he never faw the Bishop. This Book of Musket's was known to be fuch a notorious Forgery, that (y) Mr. Anderton, an ingenious Priest, expressed his Sorrow that ever fuch a Book should be suffered to come forth; 'For it would do them more hurt than ' any Book they ever wrote;' yet have they fince altered the Title, and fo printed it again: And a (z) Book exceedingly admired among them, written about fifteen Years fince, and dedicated, (as I remember to the D. of Buckingham) infifts much upon this Conversion; which makes me befeech my Brethren of our Church, that they would be careful to what Affertion they give Credit; and believe nothing in the Writings of these Men upon their Authority; for let a Thing be never so false, they will not stick to report it; and, though it be exposed and confuted, they will urge it with the same Confidence, as an uncontradicted Truth.

In

⁽x) Foot out of the Snare, p. 77. (y) Ibid. p. 78. (z) It is a thick Quarto, I have from it, but cannot remember the Title.

In the fame Manner, when Father Redmond Caron, who wrote (a) in Defence of Loyalty to the King, against the rebellious Opinions and Doctrines of the Court of Rome, lay upon his Death-bed in Dublin, Ann. 1666, the Priests raised a Report, 'That he retracted his Signatur of the Loyal Irish Remonstrance, and all his Books on that Subject.' But they were too quick in spreading this Piece of Calumny against that Loyal Man, for the Account came to his Ears before he died; upon which, in the Presence of many of his own Order, he protested solemnly, 'That he was fo far from recanting, that the Doctrine which he had taught, he looked upon as the Doctrine of Christ, and that it was his Duty to maintain it.' Thus, if any of their own Church be of a founder Principle than themfelves, they cannot help practifing that Rule of the (b) Jesuits, whereby they are directed to report, that fuch as leave them are very defirous to be received again: And, although they are fo often proved and exposed to the World, as Calumniators and Forgers, they, with the greatest Unconcernedness, invent and report anew upon the next Occasion.

But that the World may not be always fed with false Stories, they cast about for an Artifice, to deceive them by false Converts; appointing Men to pretend themselves Protestants, and after some Time to be reconciled to the Romish Church,

(a) Hift. of the Irish Remonstrance, p. 759.

⁽b) Instruct. secret pro super. Societ. Jesu, p. 23. De dismisso in Exhortationibus dicatur, quod iterum ardenter petat ingredi Societatem.

by Means of their Missionaries. (c) 'Thus Ann. 1583, at the Seffions at Gloucester, in the Month of August, one Richard Summers was apprehended, who outwardly seemed a Protestant; but being one Day present at a Discourse, between one of the Bishop of Gloucester's Chaplains and a Puritan, (as they were then called) 'used this Expression, If this be the Fruits of ' Protestantism, I will lament my Ways, and turn to my Mother the Church of Rome, seeing the 'Church of England is divided. The Chaplain upon this, suspecting this Man, one Day dis-' guised himself, and traced him to an House, where he found him in a Surplice, and heard him fay Mass; after which he dogged him to ' his Lodging, and had him apprehended.'

It is an Attempt not impossible to succeed, to raise such Reports of particular private Men, but to tell the World of whole Bodies of Men, whole Nations and Countries, and Sovereign Princes becoming Converts, when they know the contrary to be the real Truth, (d) is fomething more amazing, and able to surprise the most thinking Men; yet were not these Gentlemen ashamed to affirm, even at Rome itself, (where it is an ordinary Practice) with great Solemnity, that the Patriarch of Alexandria, with all the Greek Church of Africa, had by their Ambaffadors submitted and reconciled themselves to the Pope, and received from his Holiness Abfolution and Benediction: But though this was found a Fable, about the same Time they reported, that the (e) King of Scots, (King James) had chased the Ministers away, and executed two

⁽c) Hunting the Romish Fox, p. 155, 156. (d) Europ. Spec. 112, 113. (e) Ibid.

of them, bestowing their Goods upon the Roman Catholics; that not only (f) Beza had recanted his Religion, but the City of Geneva also sought to be reconciled, and had sent to Rome an Ambassage of Submission: 'This News was whist pered among the Jesuits two Months before it

became public; but at length there came a fo-

' lemn Account of it, which run through all I' taly, and was so verily believed to be true, that

' several went to Rome on purpose to see those

Ambassadors: And to make up the full Mea-

fure of this Romish Policy, there was News sent from Rome to Lyons, that Queen Elizabeth's

' Ambaffadors were at Rome, making great In-

flance to be absolved.'

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'And there is a certain fecular Priest, who not long fince assured me, that he had seen an ori-

'ginal Instrument, under the Hand of the late

· Archbishop of York, and other Prelates, with

feveral Divines, among whom he named Dr.

Wallis of Oxford, approving several of the Ro-

' mish Doctrines, and particularly Prayer to Saints, or for the Dead; but, though upon my earnest

'Intreaty he promised to procure me a Sight of

'it, the never performed it to this Day: But this is usual among them; when they have a Defign, either to make or confirm Proselytes, these (g) Assertions, that our greatest Men are Papists, in private are never out of their Mouths; and, within these sew Years, they reported publicly (b) in Ireland, that not only his late and present

Majesty, but all the Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom

(f) Ibid. Hift. of Geneva, p. 144. Miracles, p. 52.

⁽g) Sheldon of

⁽q) Franciscan Convert, by Ant. Egan, p. 24, Lond. 1673, 4to.

Kingdom of England, were privately of their Re-

ligion.

And no longer fince, than (i) the Year 1678, it was generally reported at Rome for fix Months together, that the Armenian Patriarch, with fix and thirty Bishops were on their Way thither; to submit to, and acknowledge the Apostolical See; though this was a Sham, like the rest of their great Conversions, on which I shall make some few Reslections, by a short Account of the great-test of them, which they are most ready to boast of at this Day.

The Conversions in the *Indies* have made so great a Noise among them, that Multitudes are possessed with a Belief of every Thing they are pleased to report concerning them; but (k) a Jesuit of Note assures us, 'That, during forty 'Years of the Missionaries Abode among them, 'there was hardly one *Indian* to be found who

(i) Ricaut's State of the Gr. and Armenian Church, p. 451,

Lond. 1679, 8vo.

⁽k) Acosta de procur. Indor. Salut. Lib. iv. c. iii. Post annes jam Quadraginta, ab Evangelii ingressu in tam immensa turba, vix quemquam qui Symboliduo capita intelligat; quid Christus sit, quid vita æterna, &c. Tota Catechisandi ratio umbratilis & ludicræ fimilis. Mihi fane monstri fimile Supervisum est inter tot millia Christianorum nomine donatorum, tam este rarum qui Christum agnoscat, ut quod Ephesii olim de Spiritu fancto, Paulo responderunt, possint hi de Christo melius Usurpare, neque an fit Christus audivimus. Id. Lib. v. c. ii.— Invenies tam tenuis & inopis messis apud Indos potentissimam causam in eo esse quod Divinis & occultis quidem sed Justis confiliis, antiquis Gentibus prædicatores fuerint prædicatione fua digni, cum nostri tam sint plerique indigni, ut longe plus evertant & dissipent quam ædificent, atque Plantent. Id. L. 4, c. iv. See more out of the same Author, ap. Hespin. Hift. Jesuit. p. 231.

' understood any two Articles of the Creed, knew any Thing of Chrift, or an eternal Life; that the Missionaries are careless and do not take any right Course for their Conversion; that, among so many thousands of Indians who are faid to be Christians, it was a rare Thing to meet with any who owned Christ, but all, like those Epbesians who St. Paul mentions, not to have heard whether there be an Holy Ghost, might answer, We have not heard whether there be a Christ: And this small Progress, he imputes to the Carelessness and evil Examples of those who are sent thither, who took no Pains to that End, so that though the antient Priests were suitable to their Calling, yet the Missionaries were so unworthy, that they destroyed more Souls than they gained or converted.

So little did they make it their Business to make them Christians, that they (1) permit them to pray and worship before their antient Idols, so they direct their Intention to a little Image of Christ, or some Saint which they have under their Cloaths; against which the Congregation of Cardinals de Propagande Fide published a Decree, July 6, 1646, which Considerations made one of their own (m) Communion affirm, 'That they are the strangest Conversions in the World, that they take no care at all to instruct these People or to teach them any 'Thing;

(m) Sure and honest Means, &c. p. 82.

⁽¹⁾ Provin. Let. p. 83, 84, and Moral Prac. of the Jefuits, p. 390.

Thing; they baptize, them only without explaining to them the Virtue of that Sacrament, or what it fignifies; nay, without turning them from their former Idolatry.' These now are their Conversions, neither are they any better in that Part of the Indies subject to the Mogul, Where they have indeed spilled the Water of Baptism upon some few Faces, saith (n) one who 1 lived in a public Employment some Years there, working upon the Necessity of some some poor Men, who for want of Means which they give them, are content to wear Crucifixes, but, for want of Knowledge in the Doctrine of Christianity, are only in Name Christians. So that the Jesuits Congregations, there are very thin, confisting of some Italians which the Mogul entertains to cut his Diamonds; --- and of other European Strangers which come thither, and fome few Natives.' (o) And yet the Christian Religion is tolerated there, and the Priests of all religious very much esteemed by the ' People.'

(p) Much the same Account is given of the Converts in Japan, that besides reading Pater Noster, Ave Maria, and some Prayers to Saints, they have little or no Knowledge of Re-

ligion.

Nor are these remote Converts only in such a miserable Condition, but, to come a little nearer Home, if we look upon the Proselytes in France,

(n) Terrie's Voyage to East-India, p. 450, Lond. 1655,

we

⁸vo. (o) Ibid. p. 440. (p) Ogilby's Japan, p. 262.

we shall find their Case very little better if not worse; for so little are they instructed, (q) 'That' two hundred Peasants came at once to the Intendant of their Province, complaining, that fince their Conversion they knew not what Praysers to make, for they had been forbidden ther old Prayers, and were not taught any other; nay, they are so unwilling of that Profession (r) that upon Christi Day 1686, 'many of them' chose rather to pay a Fine, than put up Hangings before their Houses for the Procession; and yet we hear daily Brags of these Converts, which are such as we should be ashamed of, and so would any other Church but that which glories in her Shame.

But as they triumph mightily in Conversions which were never made, and Converts not instructed, nor really altered but only frighted for a Time; so, upon every little Occasion, they raise as loud Reports of the Accession of whole Nations to their Church, wherein they are indeed a little more ingenious, than in those which had

no ground at all.

(s) Thus, when several Bishops of Lithuania and Russia Nigra, in the Year 1595, in hopes of restoring themselves to some Honours in the Diet of Poland, which by Means of the Jesuits they were deprived of, sent two of their Number to

Rome

(q) Last Efforts, p. 291.

(r) Nouvelle de la Repub. des Lettres, Juin, 1686.

Dans la dernier Fete Dieu plusieurs ont mieux aime payer une Amende que de tendre devant leurs Maisons.

(s) Smith's Account of the Greek Church, p. 242, 243; and his Narratio de Vita Cyrilli Lucarii, p. 6, inter jus Mis-

cellanea.

Rome to offer their Submission and Obedience to Clement VIII. then Pope; there was and is yet great Boastings of those Churches being reconciled to Rome; 'Though their going this ther in the Name of the Ruthenic Churches was protested against by Constantine Duke of

Oftorovia, and the rest of the Greek Church,

who resolved to continue in Obedience to the

Patriarch of Constantinople.'

I could give more Instances of this Nature, but I refer them to another Chapter; and conclude this Point of feigned Conversions, with a known Passage of the Intendant Marillac's, in France, by which we may learn what Credit to give to the Reports of this Nature, when they have the Confidence to affirm fuch a Thing of a Person of Honour in public, and before his own Face; yet did that Persecutor of the Protestants in Poictou, one Day dining with the (t) Marquis of Verac, 'give order, that the Inhabitants of the Place should affemble at ' the Cross; where he went after Dinner, and, getting upon the Steps of the Cross, told the ' People in the Marquis's Presence, that the King required them all to turn Roman Catho-' tholics, which he exhorted them to do, by telling them that, their Lord, the Marquis, was there come along with him to change his Religion; which bold and impudent Untruth, that noble Gentleman immediately contradicted by affuring the People of the contrary, and that he had no Defign to change his Religion. After this, what Credit can be given to these Men's Report in private?

CHAP. IV.

Of their laying Doctrines to our Charge, which we never taught.

A Ta Time when the Gentlemen of that Communion make so loud Complaint of being misrepresented, as to their Doctrines and Practices, and with the utmost of their Rhetoric exaggerate the Injury, which by such Misrepresentations is done to Truth and their Church; it might rationally be expected, that they should believe what they say, and have some Sense of such unjust Proceedings; or at least should in Policy take care that their own Writings be not stuffed with salse Charges against their Adversaries.

But it is fomewhat surprising to find no care taken in so material a Point, and that they are no more solicitous to represent our Doctrines right, than to defend their own, which they seem wholly to abandon; if any Pains be taken by them, it is to bespatter the *Protestants*, and coin Opinions for them: 'For they find it much more easy to result those imaginary Positions, than over-throw the well-grounded Tenets of the resorm'ed Churches,'

Hence it is, that there is no Calumny so abfurd which they blush to publish; and that the old Charge against the Waldenses and Albigenses is renewed, by the Author of Popery Anatomized, mized, (a) who copies from the Jesuit (b) Parsons, affirming, 'That they denied the Refurrection of the Dead, or that there is any fuch Place as Hell; that with the Manichees they held two Gods, and that it avails a Man nothing to fay ' his Prayers;' with several other Doctrines of a horrid Nature: But, if we confult the Authors that wrote in or near the Time, we shall find a quite contrary Account; (c) that 'They were to all Appearance a very pious People, living righteously before Men, and believing all Things rightly concerning God, and all the Articles of the Creed; and that their Lives (d) were more holy than other Christians; infomuch that, when the (e) the King of France fent Commissionsers to enquire of, and inspect their Lives and Doctrines, they informed him, that they 5 baptized, and taught the Articles of the Creed and Precepts of the Decalogue, observed the Lord's Day, preached the Word of God, and that they were not guilty of those abominable ' Crimes imputed to them; he swore, that they

(a) Popery Anat. p. 15.

(b) In his Three Convers. of Ergland, p. 3. Edit. 1604,

(c) Rainer. contra Wald. c. 4. Hæc secta magnam habet speciem pietatis, eo quod coram hominibus juste vivant, & bene omnia de Deo credant, & omnes Articulos que in Symbolo continentur.

(d) Claud. Seiff. adver. Wald. p. 9. Puriorem quam cæ-

teri Christiani vitam agunt.

(e) Joa. Camer. p. 419. Illi ad Regem referunt illis in locis homine baptizari, Articulos fidei & Decalogum doceri, Dominicos dies religiose coli, Dei verbum exponi, beneficia & stupra apud eos nulla esse. His auditis Rex jurejurando addito; me, inquit & cætero populo meo Catholico meliores illi viri sunt.

were better than he or his People, who were Catholics.'

But though the Romanists have no Authority for their Charge, yet they have a Motive which is always prevalent in that Church, the Waldenses and Albigenses with great Freedom reproved the Vices of the Pope and Clergy; and this was the chief Thing which subjected them to such an univerfal Hatred, and caused several wicked Opi. nions to be fathered upon them, which they never owned. For they agreed with the Faith of the Protestants, at this Day, as Popliniere affirms, who alledgeth, the Acts of a Disputation between the Bishop of Pamiers and Arnoltot; Minister of Lombres, written in a Language savouring much of the Catalan Tongue; affirm-'That fome had affured him, that the Articles of their Faith were yet to be feen engraven in certain old Tables in Alby, agreeing ' exactly with the reformed Churches;' And Mr. Fountain, Minister of the French Church at London, told Archbishop Usher, that, (f) In ' his Time a Confession of the Albigenses was ' found, which was approved of by a Synod of ' French Protestants.'

Thus, as the Romanists have brought most of the Heathens Rights and the ceremonious Part of their Worship into theirs, so they seem to be actuated by the same Spirit which taught the Pagans to represent our holy Religion in the most odious Manner; and they have found such Success attending this unchristian Artisice, that

⁽f) Usher's Life and Letters, p. 14. Letter to Mr. Tho-

it is hugged as their Darling, and when any Party discovers their Corruptions, they endeavour to expose them as Men of seditious Principles, which will effectually render Princes jealous of them, and draw upon them the Difpleasure of those under whose Protection they might otherwife be fecure; that the common People may. entertain as great an Aversion to them, it is not only their Practice, but a Principle of their Policy, laid down by a famous (g) Jesuit, to charge them with fuch Opinions as are abfurd in themselves and abhorred by all Men.

By this means they are fure to possess the Vulgar with fuch Prejudices, that they will lend no Ear to the other Side, whom they look upon as a fort of Monsters according to the Character these Polititians have given of them. And fuch Opinions being eafily confuted, if they can but once persuade an ignorant Protestant, that the Church of which he is a Member holds them, there needs no great Industry to prevail with such

a Man to leave it.

(b) Walsh's Letter, p. 18.

This Course the Popish Bishop of Ferns, in Ireland took, to persuade Father Andrew Sall, who had left the Jesuits among whom he had continued many Years, and about fixteen Years fince became a Member of our Church, to return to the Romish Communion; infomuch, that Father (b) Walsh confesses, 'That he had strangely ' misrepresented the Church of England in his

' Book against that Convert.'

But

⁽g) Carpantur primum illa quæ in vulgus male audiunt, quæque absurditatem primo aspectu etiam rudibus ostendunt, cent. Politic. c. 18, p. 8.

But, I think, never did any of their Writers equal (i) Father Porter, Reader of Divinity in the College of St. Isidore at Rome, who this very Year, in a Book printed there, and dedicated to the Earl of Castlemain, and licensed by the Companion of the Master of the sacred Palace and others, as a Book very useful for the Instruction of the Faithful, tells us, That the (k) God of the Protestants doth not differ from the Devil, nor his Heaven from Hell: And that the whole (1) Frame of our Religion is founded in this horrid Blasphemy, That Christ is a ' false Prophet;' which he attempts to prove by another Misrepresentation as great as this, for faith he, the (m) 'English Confession of Faith 'afferts, that general Councils, guided by the · Holy Ghost and the Word of God, may err; for which he cites the 19th and 20th Articles of our Church; the latter of which only afferts, (n) ' That the Church ought to be guided in her Decisions by the Word of God;' and though the former doth affirm, that the Church of Rome hath erred, yet it faith nothing of general Councils. The 21st Article indeed affirms. That they may err, and the Reason it gives is. because they are an Assembly of Men, who are not

(i) Securis Evangelica Rome, 1687, 8vo.

(k) Colligitur Deum Religionis reformatæ non deferre à Diabolo, nec ejus paradifum ab inferno, p. 151.

(1) P. 130. Structura Religionis reformatæ, fundatur in hoc horrenda Blasphemia, Christum esse falsum Prophetam.

(n) Roger's Faith, Doctrine, and Religion professed in Eng. Camb. 1681, 4to.

⁽m) Ibid. — Confessio Angliæ, Art. 19, & Art. 20, dicit Concilia Generalia, gubernata à spiritu sancto, possunt errare.

not all guided by the Spirit and Word of God; to that all this Frier's Exclamation of the Horridness of such a Doctrine, as he charged upon us, serves only to shew his own Immodesty, and to let the World see with what strange Confidence some Men can advance Assertions, and alledge Authorities which any one that can read

will discover to be forged.

This, I confess, seems to be a new Charge of his own inventing, but that which he brings in another Place, (0) 'That we are not obliged 'by our Religion to pray,' was long since framed by the Priests at the Beginning of the Reformation, who persuaded the People, (n) 'That in Eng'land the Protestants had neither Churches nor 'Form of Religion, nor served God any Way; and they had so possessed them with that Opinion, that several Persons were reckoned Lutberans only because they were horrid Blasphemers.

'That the Decalogue is not obligatory to Chri'flians, and that God doth not regard our Works,'
is one of the monstrous Opinions which (q)
Campion had the Considence to tell both our
Universities was maintained by the Church of
England; and like a Child, who to cover one
Untruth backs it with another, he quotes the
Apology of the Church of England, as his Voucher,
wherein these Words are found, (which are so
clear, that they alone are enough to make those

(o) Sercu. Evang. p. 95. (p) Europ. Spec. p. 314, 136. (q) Campion's Reasons Reas. Lond. 1687, 4to. See it alfo in the first Edition in Latin, Cosmop. 1681. Norunt isti suorum axiomata, opera nostra Deus nequaquam curat, &c.

blush, who, by translating and publishing this Treatise of Campion's, have made his Forgeries their own; the Words of the Apology are these)

(r) Although we acknowledge we expect nothing from our own Works, but from Christ

only, yet this is no Encouragement to a loofe

Life, nor for any to think it fufficient to believe, and that nothing elfe is to be expected

from them; for true Faith is a living and

working Faith, therefore we teach the People,

' that God hath called us to good Works.'

And, that the Reader may see what Credit is to be given to the Romanists in this Point, I shall give an Account of the Doctrine of the several reformed Churches about the Necessity of good Works; and then shew, with what Considence these Gentlemen affirm, 'That the Protestants' teach that good Works are not necessary.'

The four (s) Imperial Cities in their Confession of Faith presented to the Emperor, in the Year 1530, having explained the Doctrine of Infli-

(r) Quamvis autem dicamus nihil nobis esse præsidii, in operibus & sactis nostris, & omnem salutis nostræ rationem constituamus in solo Christo, non tamen ea causa dicimus, laxe absolute vivendum esse quasi tingi tantum & credere satis sit homini Christiano, & nihil ab eo aliud expectetur, vera sides viva est nec potest esse otiosa, ergo docemus populum, Deum nos vocasse ad bona opera ut in eis ambulemus, & c. Corpus Consess. Fidei, p. 98. Gen. 1654, 4to.

(5) Confess. Argentin. c. 4. Nolumus autem hæc sic intelligi, quasi salutem in ignavis animi cogitationibus sidéve charitate destituta—ponamus: Quandoquidem certi sumus neminem justum aut salvum sieri posse nisi amet summe Deum, & imitetur studiosissime—c. 5. Negamus quenquam plene posse salvum sieri, nisi huc per spiritum Chrsti evaserit, ut nihil jam bonorum operum in eo desideretur.—c. 6. Præcationes & religiosa jejunia actiones sanctissimas, quæq; Christianos plusima doceant habemus, &c.

Justification alone by Faith only, have these Words, 'But we would not have this understood as if we allowed Salvation to a lazy Faith, for we are certain that no Man can be faved, who doth not love God above all Things, and with all his Might endeavour to be like him; or who is wanting in any good Work: And therefore enjoin their Ministers to preach up frequent Prayer and Fasting, as holy Works and becoming Christians, in which the (t) Augustan Confession agrees with them, that good Works necessarily follow a true Faith, (for even at that Time the Calumny, that they denied the Necessity of them was very common, as appears by their folemn disclaiming any fuch Opinion in the (u) twentieth Article) affirming, (x) 'That he cannot have true Faith who doth not exercise Repentance.' The same is taught by the (y) Helvetian Churches, in their Confession, composed at Basil, Ann. 1532, 'That true Faith shews itself by good Works; and in another, (2) framed at the same Place, Ann. 1536, we find this Affertion, 'That Faith is productive of all good Works.'

The (a) Bobemian Churches affirm, 'That he who

(t) Confess. August. Art. 6. Docent quod cum fide reconciliamur necessario sequi debeat justitia bonorum operum.

(u) Art. 20. Quod adversarii criminantur nos, negligi à nobis doctrinam de bonis operibus, manifesta calumnia est, &c.

(x) Ib. Sec. de bonis operibus. Nec existere fides potest

nisi in his qui poenitentiam agunt.

(y) Confess. Basil. sive Mylhysiania, Art. 8.—Hæc [Fides] per opera charitatum se sine intermissione exercet, exercet atque ita probatur.

(z) Art. 13. Fides—præclaros omnium fructus pullulat—

& est operum fæcundissima.

(a) Confess. Bohe. Art. 5. Docent ut qui in Dei nomine dum in vivis est pænitentiam agere neglexerit, eum malo exitio perdendum.

doth not exercise Repentance shall certainly perish; and, That good Works are absolutely neces-' fary to Salvation,' is the Doctrine of the (b) Saxon Reformers, in their Confession of Faith offered to the Council of Trent, Ann. 1551; and in that, presented to the same Council by the Duke of (c) Wirtemberg the following Year, there is this Profession, 'We acknowledge the Decalogue to con-· tain Injunctions for all good Works, and that ' we are bound to obey all the moral Precepts of it. (d) We teach that good Works are necessary to be done.' (e) And in particular it commende Fasting, and in the (f) twenty second Article of the French Confession it is affirmed, 'That the · Doctrine of Faith is fo far from being an Hindrance to an holy Life, that it excites us to it, fo that it is necessarily attended with good Works.

The Church of England agrees with the rest of the Resormed, Artic. 12. 'That good Works' are acceptable to God, and do necessarily spring out of a true and lively Faith, 'And the (g)

(b) Confess. Saxon. Art. de nova obedientia.—Necessaria est cura vitandi tales lapsus. Hæc manifesta necessitas, proposita summa pæna si quos non movet ad bene operandum.

(c) Confess. Wirtemb. Art. de Lege. Agnoscimus legem Dei cujus epitome est decalogus, præcipere optima justissima & persectissima opera, & hominem obligatum esse ad obediendum moralibus præceptis Decalogi.

(d) Ibid. Art. De bonis operibus docemus bona opera, divi-

nitus Præcepta necessario facienda esse.

(e) Ibid. Art. de Jejunio, — Jejunium sentimus utile esse, &c. (f) Confess. Gall. Art. 22. Tantum abest igitur, ut bene sancteque vivendi studium sides extinguat ut etiam illud cieat & inflammet in nobis unde bona opera necessaria consequentur.

(g) Confess. Helv. c. 16. Eadem [Fides] retinet nos in officio quod Deo debemus & proximo, & in adversis patientiam firmat, Confession of Faith subscribed by all the Churches of Helvetia, Ann. 1566, and afterwards by the Reformed of Poland, Scotland, Hungary, and Geneva, gives this Account of the Faith of those Churches: 'Faith causes us to discharge our Du-' ty toward God and our Neighbour, makes us patient in Advertity, and produces all good Works in us, so we teach good Works to be the Offspring of a lively Faith. And although ' we affirm with the Apostle, that we are justified by Faith in Christ, and not by our good Works; yet we do not reject them: But condemn all who despise good Works, and teach that they ' are not necessary.' And in the thirteenth and fourteenth Articles of the (b) Scotch Confession, they maintain the Necessity of all good Works, because they are commanded by God; which is likewise the Doctrine of the Dutch Churches, as appears by the Profession of their Faith in the (i) Synod of Dort, affirming, 'That it is impossible that true Faith should be without Works, see-' ing it is a Faith working by Love, which cauf-

firmat, & confessionem veram format, atque facit, & ut uno verbo omnia dicam omnis generis bonos fructus & bona opera progignit. Docemus enim vere bona opera enasci ex viva side.—Quamvis ergo doceamus eum Apostolo, hominem gratis justificari per fidem in Christum & non per ulla bona opera, non ideo tamen vili pendimus, aut condemnamus opera bona.—Damnamus itaq; omnes, qui bona opera contemnunt, non curanda & inutilia esse blaterant.

(b) Confess. Scot. Art. 13. Causa bonorum operum, & Art.

(i) Confess. Eccles. Belgicar. in Synodo Dort. Art. 24. Fieri non potest ut sancta hæc sides in homine otiosa sit: Siquidem non loquimur de side vana, sed de ea quæ in scriptura dicitur, Fides per charitatem essicax; quæ inducit hominem ut illis operibus quæ Deus verbo suo præcepit, sese exerceat.

es a Man to do all those good Works, which God hath commanded in his Word. And the same Doctrine is delivered in the Articles of the Church of *Ireland*; but, because I have not those

Articles at hand, I omit the Words.

Thus, by an universal Consent of all the Protestants, we find the Necessity of good Works maintained, and I challenge our Adversaries to produce any one allowed Author who holds the contrary among us (which is an Unity beyond what they can shew in their Church for any one Point) though if they could, it would not justify their Charge who so often tell us, that we must not take the Faith of any Church from private

Writings, but their public Confessions.

But these Gentlemen scorn to be tied by any Rules, though never so just, even in their own Opinions; and therefore in a (k) Supplication directed to King James, by several Romish Priests, they affirm, 'That who foever leaveth their Com-" munion for ours, beginneth immediately to ' lead a worse Life,' so it is grown into a Proverb, 'That the Protestant Religion is good to live in, but the Papist good to die in.' indeed they made it their Business to possess their People with that Opinion, so that Father Francis (1) de Neville, a Capuchin, confesseth, 'That he did imagine for a long Time, that they of the reformed Churches, admitting Justification by Faith alone, did it to exclude good Works from the Way of Salvation, and shew them-' felves in that to be Enemies of Charity and

(1) Reasons for Father Neville's Conversion, Chap. 26.

⁽k) A Supplication to the King's most excellent Majesty, Lond. 1604, 4to.

of other Virtues, and did therefore extreaming the condemn them: But when he came to found their Doctrine, and see how they judge good Works necessary to Salvation; and that the Faith whereof they speak is not a dead Faith, but a lively Faith accompanied with good Works, he acknowledged they were wrongfully blanted in this, as in many other

Things alfo.' why in the

But though this Gentleman was fo fincere, yet there are but few among them who tread in his Stops; for, to pass by all the Controvertists of the last Age, we need go no farther than these late Years, to find Inflances of their Misrepresentations in this Particular; (m) one of them, in a Book dedicated to her Majesty, tells the World, 'That the Principle of our Religion takes from us the Yoke of Fafting, freeth us from all Neoeffity of good Works to be faxed, and of keeping the ' Commandments of God;' and, that we might not think he afferted these only to be the Consequences of our Doctrines, headds, 'That most Protestants hold that Position, and that it is our express Doctrine; and in another Place he affirms, 'That Praying, Watching and Fasting are "wholly out of use among Protestants, and not only contrary to the Liberty of their new Gofpel, but even fruitless, vain, superstitious Toys ' according to the Tenets and Principles thereof.' (n) Another sets it down as one of the Protestant Articles, 'That good Works are not abfolutely necessary to Salvation.' Which Father (6)

⁽m) Verit. Evang. p. 41, 108, Lond. 1687, 4to.

⁽n) Touchst. of the Refor. Gos. p. 51, Lond. 1685, 12mo.]
(a) Manual of Controv. p. 65, Doway, 1671, 8vo.

Turbervill confirms by being more particular, The Catholic Church, faith he, teacheth much ' Fasting, Prayer and Mortification; she exhorts to good Works, voluntary Poverty, Chastity and Obedience, the contrary to all which holy Doctrines are taught by Protestants.' And a (p) very late Author infinuates, That it is all one to Protestants whether God be served with ' Fasting, Watching, Mortifying, or without;' but the Roman Divine, Father (q) Porter, is more express, 'That one of the Causes, which renders ' the Reformed so averse to Popery, is, that they abhor Fasting and Repentance, and account ' Prayer and other Offices of Religion tedious; (r) that our Religion allows us to believe that good Works are not necessary to Salvation; (s) that, by our Doctrine, Thieves, Murderers, Blasphemers, &c. may attain Heaven by their being so, if they will but believe; and that by being such they are as much the Sons of God, 'as the Apostles were,' with Abundance more of fuch abominable Stuff, fit only for carrying on a most malicious Design.

When with their best Rhetoric these Gentlemen have endeavoured to persuade the World,

(p) Use of the Notes of the Church, p. 6.

(r) Id. p. 179. Indulget prætensa Reformatio, credere quod

bona opera non fint necessaria ad falutem.

⁽⁹⁾ Secur. Evang. Introd. Sect. 2. Radices ex quibus horror Catholicorum pullulat, funt-Horror jejuniorum & operum pænitentiæ, Pigritia & tediumfrequentandi cultum laudesque divinas.

⁽s) Id. p. 151. Cœlum Religionis Reformatæ admittit, homicidas, adulteros, blasphemos, &c. qua tales, esto nunquam sua peccata detestati suerint modo crediderint. And in another Place, p. 107. Ex Principiis ejusdem Religionis, sequitur adulteros, homicidas, idololatras, qua tales tam esse silios Dei, quam fuere Apostoli, &c.

'That they are abused in the Account given of their Doctrines by our Divines,' all they pretend to complain of amounts to no more than this, 'That 'we have drawn Consequences from our Doctrine 'which they will not hear;' and we find not that their greatest Malice can pretend to much more; surely then it is high Time for them to reslect a little upon that Counsel of our (t) Saviour, first

to pull the Beam out of their own Eye.

It is not for want of Materials, but because I would not be too prolix, that I produce no more Particulars in this Point of good Works, for I do not remember to have feen any one of their Writings which is not guilty in this Kind; I have more need to make an Apology for infifting fo long upon this one Particular, but I was eafily induced to it, knowing that one of their great Defigns is to possess the devouter Sort of Men with a Belief, that we left their Communion to have greater Liberty for the Flesh, in Prosecution of which they are so strangely immodest, as to publish such false Opinions for us, as directly contradict our public Confessions, the discovering of which I looked upon the best Way to oppose their Slanders.

But to take a short View of other Particulars: The Author of Veritas Evangelica before cited runs wholly upon this Point, 'That we believe 'the whole Church hath failed,' and thence argues, that Christ had no Church for some Years. Into the same Error Father (u) Mumford, the Jesuit, runs; and another affirms, (x) 'That we teach O2' the

⁽t) Matt. vii. 5. (u) Catholic Scriptur. p. 77.

⁽x) Primit. Rule before the Reform. par. 1, p. 7.

the Church of all Nations is confined to Eng-

Because we reject all Traditions that are not according to the Rule of Lirinensis, received every where, at all Times and by all, Father (y) Porter lays this down as one of our Principles, That all Traditions of all Sorts are the Inventitions of Men; though he could not but know, that we receive the Scriptures from such an universal Tradition, and are ready to embrace any other Doctrine conveyed to us as they are.

With the same Sincerity and Modesty he affirms, (2)' That we pretend that the express Words of Scripture are our Rule of Faith without any Interpretation or Consequence drawn from them; though, not to mention other Churches, the (a) Church of England declares, 'That we are to be guided not only by the express Words of the Scripture, but by the Consequences drawn from it,' and yet this Gentleman affirms, 'That our Consessions of Faith pretend only to the express Words.'

It is notoriously known, that our Differences about Church Government are no Articles of our Faith, and yet this Author tells (b) us, 'That' the Equality of Power in the Pastors of the Church is one of the fundamental Articles of the

(y) Secur. Evangel. Quintum Principium. Omnes omnino Traditiones funt inventiones humanæ.

(2) Secur. Evang. Introd. Sec. 4, 5, 6, & p. q. Where under this Head, Rescentur præcipuæ heterodoxæ Religionis Principia, he reckons that for one. (a) Art. 6.

(b) Secur. Evang. p. 26. Omnes Paftores Ecclesiæ æqualem habent authoritatem & potestatem, &c.—Hæc sunt dogmata fidei Rescrmatæ, hæ bases & sundamenta pretensæ Resormationis.

the Reformation.' A Way of missepresenting which hath been sufficiently blackened by themselves, so that I need say nothing to expose it.

But to leave this Frier, whose whole Book confists of little else but as bad or worse Assertions, one of their (c) Champions, could persuade the World, 'That we account the Belief of Translubstantiation to be Idolatry:' A cunning Artifice to draw the People from considering where the Charge is laid, not against the Doctrine of the corporal Presence, but the Adoration of the Host. And his fellow (d) Advocate seems resolved not to be behind-hand, when he affirms, 'That we' we believe there is nothing to be hoped for of Substance in the Sacrament.'

We dispute with great Earnestness against the idolatrous Worship given to Angels and Saints in that Church, and our Adversaries have found it impossible to make a fair Desence for it, therefore they betake themselves to prove, that those happy Spirits pray for us, which we acknowledge as well as they, and yet a very (e) celebrated Writer affirms, that we deny it. We profess to believe the Article of the Communion of Saints, but Mr. (f) Ward hath the Assurance to tell the World, 'That Protestants believe no Communion of Saints.'

Hitherto we have had Instances of their direct Way of misrepresenting, but they are not so unskilful as not to be surnished with finer Methods, and which are not so easily discovered by the

⁽c) Transub. defend. in the Introd.

⁽d) Answ. to a Dif. against Trans. p. 7.

⁽a) Touchstone of the Reform. Gosp. p. 63, 71.

⁽f) Menomachia, p. 20.

Vulgar. When they are eagerly disputing, it is an easy Thing to drop some Affertion, which ' in the Heat of Discourse shall pass unheeded by the warm Adversary, but they will be fure to resume it, and make their Advantage of its ont being contradicted, either during the Con-' ference, or afterwards, to some of the Persons then present; which renders it necessary for those who engage with them to watch every Word, and not only attend to the main Que-' stion; for by this Method they gain one of ' these two Points, if their Infinuation be not ' answered at first, they will urge the Point as ' granted, and if the Disputant deny it, they pre-' fently cry out, That he is now reduced to a 'Strait, and fo denies what he owned before, which Observation shall be surely seconded and ' applauded by their Adherents, and often leaves ' an Impression in the weaker Hearers: On the other hand, if, when they find themselves pres-' fed, and at a Stand, (which is their usual Time ' to drop fuch a bye Affertion) and that their Artifice is discovered, and their Position denied, ' they leave the first Point and pursue the other, ' and fo engage infenfibly in a defultory Dispute, ' from one Thing to another, never fixed, by ' which they render most Disputations ineffectual; ' fo that, whether stopped in their Design or not, ' they make their Advantage, either to mifrepre-' fent our Doctrine, or extricate themselves from ' the Difficulties they cannot refolve.'

Thus, one of their Divines urging the Authority of the Fathers to a *Protestant*, and not willing to expose himself so far, as to affirm in express Terms, that we thought those Holy Men divinely

divinely inspired, used this Expression, That ' feeing we owned the Authority of the divinely 'inspired Fathers, he would prove the Infallibility of the Church from their Writings: To this the Gentleman, not regarding the Epithet, anfwered, that he could not, and fo proceeded in the Dispute: They had not been parted many Hours, but the Frier defired some of the Company, to observe how the Protestants contradicted themselves, about their Rule of Faith, professing to receive whatever was inspired by the Holy Ghost; and yet not admitting the Writings of the Fathers into the Rule, though the Opponent had acknowledged, that they were inspired from above; and when it was replied, that there was no fuch Concession, he urged, That when he termed them divinely inspired, there was no Exception taken at it, which was a tacit affirming them to be fo.' But the Gentlemen were too wife to be caught with fo very flight an Appearance.

I shall have Occasion, to give a farther Account of this under another Head; therefore I shall at present only observe, that, how thin soever this Artifice is in itself, they use it in their public Discourses, as well as private Conversation; Mr. Clench, arguing for the Infallibility of Councils, hath these Words, (speaking of our Appeal to the four first General Councils) '(g) I know 'no Reason why the Church should be credited in the four first General Councils, and slighted 'and disbelieved in the following: Christ promised he would be with them to the Consum-

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where Christ promised to be with them for a limited Time, so as to direct them in their sirst Assemblies, and to leave them for the suture to themselves. Here he would make the Reader believe, that we receive those Synods, as believing them secured from Error, by Christ's Promise, for else his Argument is impertinent; but we do not receive them on any infallible Authority of theirs; not because they could not err, but because they did not; and therefore we reject others, because they have erred; for we know of no Promise made to them, but are yet ready to receive any such Councils as the first were, who govern themselves by the Holy Scriptures.

They find no great Difficulty in confuting imaginary Opinions, which makes them so very dexterous in this Method. To dispute against our Doctrine of Justification by Faith was too hard a Task; and therefore (b) F. T. coins a new Definition of it in the middle of his Argument, and immediately runs away with that, endeavouring to prove, that Faith is not an assured Belief that our Sins are forgiven; learnedly arguing against his own Imagination: However, he had what he aimed at; for he made a Shew of saying somewhat, and if he could but persuade any ignorant Protestant, that the Definition was owned by the Reformed, he was sure he had overthrown it.

With the same Sincerity another of their Champions (i) would infinuate, that the Protestants left the Communion of Rome, because of the Wickedness of the Members of that Church, and there-

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fore heaps up Authorities to prove, that it is not a fufficient Motive for a Separation from them; but all his Labour is to very little Purpose, for we know the Tares and Wheat are to grow together until Harvest; and not only the Wickedness of their Priests and Bishops, but the Errors and monstrous Corruptions of their Church, could not have justified our Separation, if they had not endeavoured to force us to be Partakers of those Abominations, which we durst not do, lest we should be Partakers of those Plagues, which are denounced against them. It was an easy Matter to prove the former no Ground for Separation, but something hard to undertake the other Point, so that our Author wisely waved it.

It was observed by the (k) Duke of Buckingbam, 'That these Gentlemen served themselves of hateful Nick-names, when they are preffed in Disputes about Religion; which is another of their Artifices to promote the fame End. It was long fince put in Practice by the Bishops of Nice, who set up the Worship of Images; (1) for no fooner were they pressed with a Passage out of Eusebius, but they brand him with the Title of an Arian; which Example hath been fince followed by the Gentlemen of that Communion, on purpose to make the World believe, that their Adversaries held the Doctrines those Names import: The Nicolaitans are represented in the Revelation as the worst of Men, therefore the Defenders of Priests Marriage had that Name im-

(1) Council. Nican. 2d Act. 6.

⁽k) In his Answer to the Spanish Abass. Inform. See the Connection, p. 143.

posed on them, that the common People might think thay held the Community of Wives as that Sect did; and so the Opposers of Transubstantiation

were nick-named Stercoranists and Paintes.

(8)

This Artifice they made great use of in suppressing the Loyal Remonstrance in Ireland, which I gave some Account of in the sormer Chapter; (m) the Name of Protestant is a most odious Appellation among them; therefore Riddere the Commissary, in his Letter to Cardinal Barberini, stiles them Irish Protestants, and the same Cardinal had before called them the Valesian Sect.

The Success attending this Method hath been fo great, that Father Contzen (n) hath formed it into a Rule; and how well it is observed, may be seen by their daily Practice. For, as Mr. Travers complains, (0) 'They call us Calvinifts, &c. but we content ourselves with the honourable Name ' of Christians: To be a Franciscan, a Thomist, ' Scotist, we leave to them who have rent assunder ' Christ's Body; but we have no such Custom to ' name ourselves of any Man.' It was an old Device of the Arians, to call themselves the only true Catholics, and all others Ambrofians, Athanahans, &c. but this is not the only heretical Exafter which the Romanists do exactly ample copy.

The preceding Instances are Warrant enough for me, to renew my Request to the Reader, not to believe them when they affirm, That such a par-

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(n) Cont. Pol. p. 97.

⁽m) Hist, of the Irish Remonst. p. 506, 511.

⁽⁰⁾ Traver's Answer to a Supplicatory Epistle, p. 339, 340. See the Picture of a Papist, p. 37.

ticular Doctrine is Part of the reformed Religion; for we have feen that they are not over fincere in that Matter. If Men are found fathering Do-Ctrines upon their Adversaries, which they abhor as much or more than they, will any Man in his Wits believe such an Imputation coming from those Men? But, not only the Infincerity of the Persons, but the Deceit of the Method itself, ought to make us cautious: For, if any particular Doctrine were taught by some of our Divines, it doth not follow that it is a Part of the Protestant Religion: If a Person be of any particular Opinion, he ought not to lay fuch a Stress upon it, as to make it Part of his Religion, for that confifts in a few plain Articles, and if the other be overthrown, as long as these remain, the Religion remains intire.

I mention this, because I have some Experience, that the Gentlemen do not mifrepresent our Doctrines, only to make the World have an ill Opinion of them, but to get Advantage of engaging with those, who hold some particular illgrounded Opinion, that, having refuted it, they may feem to have triumphed over a Protestant Principle. And this Advantage is too often given them by unwary Men, who, prefuming on their own Abilities, chuse rather to defend some private Sentiment than the common Articles of our Faith. An ill Cause will not admit of a sound Defence, and therefore it is no hard Task to overthrow unwarrantable Positions; which should make those who deal with them use more care; ' For if they should be able to defend their O-' pinion, the Truth of the Protestant Religion is one Jot more apparent, but the Adversaries

of it have a plausible Pretence to affirm, that

' such a Position is one of the Doctrines of it;

' and if it be found incapable of Defence, these 'Gentlemen, who brag when there is no Cause,

' will triumph unmeasurably, and amuse many

' ignorant and weak Souls.'

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The Sum of all is, 'That having to do with 'Men, whose Talent at misrepresenting improves

' daily, it is our indispensible Duty to be well

' acquainted with the Particulars of our Faith, ' that neither their Eloquence in persuading, their

'Artifice in deforming our Doctrines, nor the

' Fame of their Abilities, may either put us on

defending those Doctrines which we do not

' teach, nor persuade us that our Religion ap-' proves them.' We have many Instances of those who have split upon this Rock; I never met with any of their Converts who understood

met with any of their Converts who understood our Religion, but, having entertained wrong Notions of it, were persuaded to change upon the

Confutation of those imaginary Tenets. 'I desire these Gentlemen to name any one Book of Con-

' troversy, which they think is written with most

' Sincerity on their Side, and Lengage myself topro-

"duce several false Imputations in it;' by this Trick" they find most Success; so that, if all our People would labour to understand their Religion, the

Romanists would have but few Converts.

After what has been faid, it may be necessary to add a Word or two concerning Loyalty to the King, and the present civil Establishment. The Transition from a Change of Religious to Civil Principles is easy. For, as by the Doctrines of his new Religion, the Convert ought to look upon all who differ from him as Heretics devoted to Destru-

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dre wh pre Destruction, and that it is in the Power of the Pope to excommunicate Princes and give their Dominions to another, the Allegiance of such an one must stand on a very tottering Foundation, ready to fall to the Ground at every Blast which comes from Rome.

But the Case of our English Converts is peculiar; and there being a Pretender to the Throne of these Kingdoms, who is of the same absurd and uncharitable Way of thinking with themfelves, they are Arongly tempted to abandon their lawful Sovereign, and transfer their Allegiance to one who brings fo powerful a Recomoff. It is the

mendation along with him.

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Were the Pretender to his Majesty's Crown of the reformed Religion, as he stands excluded by the Laws of the Land, the Nation could not receive him without incurring the horrible Guilt of Perjury. But in that Case our Papis would confult his own immediate Security, and prefer the reigning Prince to the abjured Pretender: Though he must grant, that the Shadow of Title would be as strong in the exiled Protestant, as it is now in the Papist. The only Difference is, that he has at present some distant Hope of the full Enjoyment of his Religion, which in the other Case he cannot expect. And surely, when a Change of our holy Religion is attended with fuch pernicious Confequences to the State, it is incumbent upon all who have it in their Power, to endeavour to put a Stop to the Progress of Popery.

The Popish Priests are generally Men of Address, who infinuate themselves into all Company, where they think their Artifices will in the least prevail. And their real Characters not being im-

mediately

mediately known, they are more enabled to instil their poisonous Principles into the Ignorant and Unwary. They first of all win upon the Affections, by doing little Offices of Kindness to the intended Convert; and when they have gained the Passions to their Party, under a borrowed Character, by degrees, Opportunities are taken to pull off the Mask, and to execute their Misfion to Advantage. And let no Man dispise what has been faid, under Pretence their Converts are chiefly among the meaner Sort of People : In Times of Diffress and Danger the poorest Man is of Consequence, as well to his Country as the richest. It is the Courage of the Meanest, with respectro Fortune sthat this Majesty must rely on for the Support of his Crown.

Let it be remembered, that, when a Man turns from Protestantism to Popery, his Majesty not only loses a Friend but gains an Enemy: For I never yet knew, or heard of a Popish Convert, since the Revolution, that retained his Civil, when

would belie throng in the exiled Protestant, as is is now in the Popps. The only Difference is,

he parted with his Religious Principles,

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The kelps Reich are generally Men of Adacted, which all fines themselves into all Company, where they their Artifices will in the left training that their Artifices will in the left training.

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